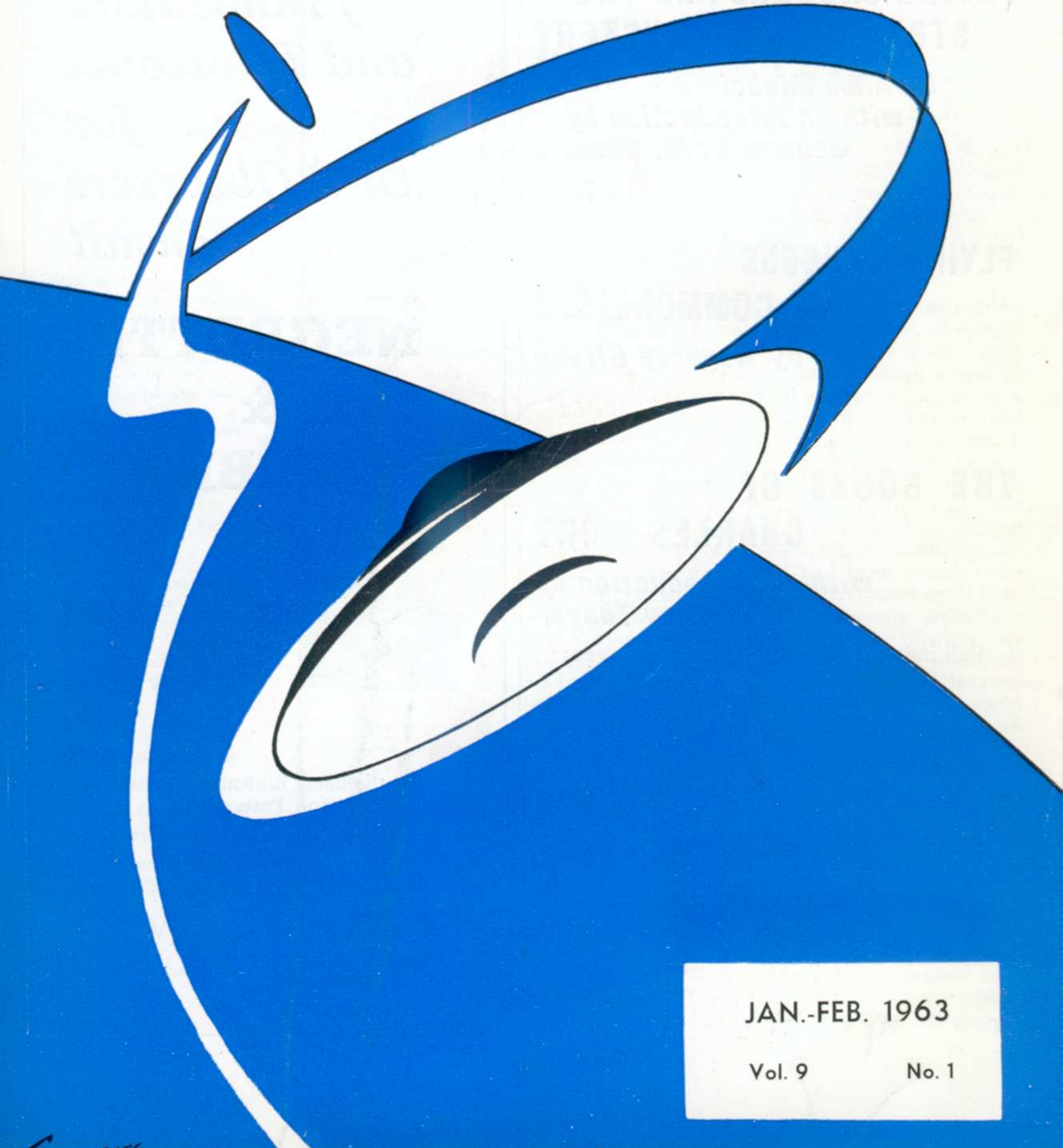
FLYING SAUCER
REVIEW



JAN.-FEB. 1963

Vol. 9 No. 1

The bi-monthly
Journal of
SPACE

Edited by
Waveney Girvan

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Flying Saucer Review

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Annual Subscription
U.K. and Eire £1 . 5 . 0
U.S. and Canada $4.00
Overseas equivalent of £1 . 6 . 0 English currency.
Single copies 4s. 6d.
Back copies 5s.
Flying Saucer Review,
1, Doughty Street,
London, W.C.1,
England.

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

INCORPORATING FLYING SAUCER NEWS

Vol. 9 No. 1 **JANUARY-FEBRUARY**

A New Year Look

IN a letter from the Antipodes recently a reader took us to task for having printed a contact story from Italy, and he indicated that we should have omitted it so as to "insure your readers against ridicule." It is a not unreasonable criticism, but as the publishing of the article was in accord with our declared editorial policy, it might be as well if we started the New Year with a re-statement of our aims.

In the first place, we cannot, alas, hope to insure our readers against ridicule. If any of them are sensitive to that form of opposition, then all we can do is to advise them to study some more respectable subject. Had the pioneers felt that way there would by now have been no subject and no REVIEW. It was by ignoring what, at first sight, looked ridiculous that Michel, Fontes and others discovered the pattern behind the apparent absurdity. Therefore, it must remain the primary task of the REVIEW to help all who investigate the phenomenon of flying saucers by making available as many as possible of the facts that come to our notice. What we printed about the contact claimant from Italy was not invented (and neither was it endorsed) by us. As we acknowledged, it had already appeared in print in an Italian journal and had been widely commented on by others. The claimant had been interviewed by at least one reporter, a member of a profession not commonly given to a starry-eyed credulity. While not himself a believer, the reporter was sufficiently open-minded to give the matter a very wide publicity. Should the REVIEW have ignored an incident which had become common knowledge half across Europe? To have done so would have attracted criticism from the opposite camp to the effect that we were suppressing news which might have contributed materially to the subject. It must be remembered that our readers range in character from those who doubt every contact claim to those who accept them all quite uncritically. About this Italian claim we just do not know. Does our Antipodean reader know more? Unfortunately, he failed to tell us.

It would be as well to repeat that we are of the opinion that among the contact claims there may well be found some piece of evidence that could set the seal upon our enquiry. When we print these stories we do so without prejudice. Furthermore, we believe that any journal or investigative body that seeks to find the truth must take these contact claims into account. Those who fail to do so will wither away. For fifteen years the public has been offered sightings galore.

These could continue for another fifteen—and so could the arguments (however stupid we may consider them) that the objects were this, that or the other and not one of them a flying saucer in our understanding of the term.

We have very strong reason to believe that by no means all of the contact claims are fraudulent. Nor do we believe that all the claimants are mad. We do not believe that the Italian claimant whose story we printed was mad. We trust the Italian reporter and our own interviewer who were both convinced that he was sane. The claimant may be fraudulent, but the days when fat rewards were to be made by false representations are over. Incidentally, the rewards were often grossly exaggerated and the critic was inclined, perhaps through ignorance, to over-estimate the returns to either publisher or author of even a highly successful book.

We have another reason for giving the contact stories a hearing in our columns. It has been most noticeable that the professional debunkers of saucers concentrate on sightings. With hardly an exception they ignore accounts of landings and confrontations (friendly or otherwise) with beings allegedly from other planets. It is also significant that Keyhoe, in his long fight with the United States Air Force, has never once, as far as we know, employed orthoteny as a weapon. Is it because Michel's discovery gave support to more than one incident when pilots were seen to emerge from the saucers? Again, as far as we know, the United States Government has never once repudiated Adamski, although its Air Force is only too ready to pounce upon some poor sighting in an attempt to kill it stone dead before it can do its work of conversion. Does the United States Air Force ignore the landing accounts because it knows that on this front it is weakest? If so, it must be grateful to those investigators who choose to fight where it is most vulnerable.

What the REVIEW finds difficult to believe is that spaceships should have been visiting this earth for perhaps hundreds of years and never once coming down lower than our tree-tops. If the objects are piloted, then some creatures must be inside. Signor Zuccalà claimed that they were completely covered by some form of armour from which, apparently, antennae sprouted.* It is easy to laugh, for the description reminds us of our own space-fiction stories, but we forget that fiction so often anticipates fact and usually bases itself upon the plans that science is already working on—it is an anticipation and not a contradiction of the possibilities of the future.

What we can do to satisfy our Antipodean reader and others it to guarantee to print any reasoned exposure of a perjured claimant, but accusations based merely on a personal incredulity just will not do.

It was in accordance with this declared policy that we printed Van den Berg's contact claim and alleged discovery. We have gone further and have invited him to England where one of our readers has offered to place a factory at his disposal. We make no apology and we are prepared to stand by whatever result is achieved. How otherwise are we to arrive at the truth?

* See FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, July-August, 1962.

A FLYING SAUCER BROOCH?

As a result of the successful launching of the flying saucer tie for men, we have been asked by one of our women readers whether it would not be possible to issue a brooch with a similar design. The problem is, of course, one of economics, but if our women readers would write to us we would receive an indication of the possible demand.

The design would be similar to that of the tie and we would like to take this opportunity of explaining to the few who have found this design too discreet that in sartorial matters the male is essentially conservative and a tie with a loud design is unlikely to be worn—whatever its motif or purpose. The brooch, like the tie, would be obtainable only from the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW and the wearing of it would indicate an interest in the subject and a willingness to discuss it. For this reason it is essential that sales should be restricted to those genuinely interested in our subject: too wide a distribution might easily defeat the object of the exercise.

TRANSLATION BY
G.W. CREIGHTON

THE ITALIAN SCENE—Part I

Signor Siragusa's Message

IT would seem that only in Italy, at the moment, is it possible to conduct a nationwide enquiry into flying saucers and to publish the results fearlessly in a popular magazine. The Italian students of the subject must always be grateful to the Editor of *Domenica Del Corriere* for his courage; in issue after issue it has devoted considerable space not only to sightings and protographs of UFOs, but also to the much less fashionable contact claims. Readers of the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW will recall that of recent months Italy has produced reports of numerous alleged contacts—for instance, that of Mario Zuccalà was reported in the July-August, 1962, issue and Luciano Galli's in the September-October, 1962 issue. Whether, in fact, Italy has been more favoured than other countries of late is a moot point. It may be that thanks to the open-minded approach of papers like *Domenica del Corriere,* the Italians more than anybody else have been encouraged to come forward and testify in public.

In its issue of October 28, 1962, the *Domenica del Corriere* sent its reporter, Renato Albanesi (a disbeliever at the outset—a puzzled man at the end) on a tour of investigation. His first report came from Catania in Sicily and read as follows:

> I seem to be heading into the unknown, but I am in fact about to ascend once more Europe's most familiar of volcanoes, Mt. Etna. The car in which I am sitting is being driven by Signor Eugenio Siragusa, a native of Catania. Aged 43, he is employed in the Customs and Excise, and lives at Corso Province 146, Catania. Signor Siragusa says that he has met and spoken with beings not of this Earth, who came out of a flying saucer.
>
> He appears to be physically very healthy and mentally entirely lucid. He is a vigorous young man, the authentic type of swarthy Sicilian, with bright and sincere eyes that never reveal any trace of doubt or uncertainty when he is relating the details of his extraordinary adventure. He has a wife, Rosaria Mirabella, and two sons, Liberto, 18, and Franco Marzio, 13. He declares that he has twice met these mysterious beings from another world, the first time on April 30, 1962, and the second time on September 5, 1962.
>
> How did Siragusa ever manage to meet them? He swears that the "space-beings" notify him in advance by "mental probes" or, rather, by means of "solex extra-sensorial perception," i.e. in common or garden parlance, by telepathy. (And this is one of the points that, frankly speaking, leave me perplexed.) Yet a further detail must be added: Siragusa maintains that, some few evenings before being called to his appointments with the space-people, he saw luminous bodies, some in the shape of saucers and some in the shape of cigars, passing at great heights over his house. These last-mentioned cigars are the space-ships, the true and actual bases of the saucers.
>
> The mysterious people who communicate with him by means of mental probes explained to him later that the two cigar-shaped ships are distinguished, in their space-terminology, as ALPHA-2 and ALPHA-8. They are each 600 metres long, and each is capable of holding 500 saucers. These declarations by Eugenio Siragusa have been confirmed to me by his wife and his two sons.
>
> In order to dissipate my hesitations about Siragusa, I have asked for information about him from people who know him, and also from several of his office colleagues. All of them agree in declaring that he is a man worthy of attention and esteem, scrupulously correct in his work, and that no grounds exist such as might favour any doubt about him.
>
> In order to get a better idea of all that Siragusa has to say, I am now on the way with him to visit the places where these fantastic meetings took place.
>
> We were following the road that runs up gently from Catania towards Etna. This morning the volcano is clear of clouds at a certain height. The tip, white with snow, stands out sharply, with its plume of smoke against the sky.
>
> When we have reached a lava-flow, Siragusa stops the car and, pointing to a small peak looming above us, says: "Here. This is the spot. That is Monte Manfrè. There are a

couple of extinct craters up there. The machine was there, inside one of them." The place is deserted, well-wooded. Amid the vegetation, piled up, lie chaotic masses of lava. An apocalyptic landscape. It seems as though expressly made for the purpose of fantasy.

In their "mental probing," Siragusa explains to me, the extra-terrestrials had not spoken of this Monte Manfrè, but they had transmitted to him details as to the day, the hour, and the direction that he was to take (roughly, I imagine, as is said to occur with carrier-pigeons).

Here was a young oak tree under which the meeting had taken place. "They were underneath here," said Siragusa, standing on the spot where he said the two space-men had been. "They were so close to me that we could touch each other. I estimate that they were about 1 metre 65 cms. in height (5 ft. 4 in.). They were wearing helmets of metallised tissue. It seemed to be all made in one piece. On their legs they had space-suit trousers, on which some silver rings were noticeable. From the belts of both figures, a light flashed at intervals, yellow-green-blue, which, I don't know why, gave me a feeling of great tranquility.

"One of them came to a distance of 1½ metres from me, and said to me in Italian: 'Listen, and transmit this message to the most powerful men of the Earth." The voice did not have a human timbre, and seemed to come as if it were from a recorder, and had a metallic tone. It occurred to me that the beings had no vocal chords, but were emitting sounds by means of other strange organs.

"They dictated the message to me. I managed to retain it in my memory, and typed it out at once as soon as I got back home.

"At this point the two space-beings said to me in a priestly manner—and still in that metallic voice: 'Peace be to you,' and made a solemn gesture with their hands as if they desired to bless me. I was so dumbfounded that I was not able to ask them a thing."

We now had reached the edge of the crater—shaped like a gigantic funnel—on the floor of which the saucer had landed. Siragusa says that the saucer was about 15 metres in diameter, but that he could not see it very clearly. What he could see was principally the light that emanated from the craft.

Renato Albanesi does not quote the message in full, but states that it consists of vague and somewhat rhetorical advice to desist from H-bomb tests and to "disarm our hearts." He adds that "the tenor of this prolix message is precisely one of the principal factors that have caused us to doubt the truthfulness of the whole affair." In his attitude, Albanesi is not alone, but it must be borne in mind that this sort of message, in equally rhetorical terms, is alleged to have been received from contact claimants from Adamski onwards and it is strange that it should be so. It is a message that most of us are prepared to accept, but we do not know how to implement it. It is not unnatural that the inhabitants of the earth expect those who come from afar should be able to arrange the practical side of affairs or to suggest how it can be done. Otherwise, it remains a contradiction that those who are supposed to be our intellectual superiors should be so naïve as to expect people like Signor Siragusa to effect such a revolution in our way of life.

However, nothing daunted by considerations like these the message was sent to the Pope, de Gaulle, Kennedy, Kruschev, the Queen of England and the President of Italy. Only de Gaulle replied, or rather the Chef de Cabinet on his behalf. The letter is no more than a formal acknowledgment of receipt.

Signor Siragusa's story is then continued:

Throughout the whole of August he and his family saw saucers passing over their house. On September 4 came the mental summons, giving him an appointment for the following day.

"I arrived at this spot," he says, "at 10.03 p.m. Look. You see that road cut through the lava?" (We are at a point a few hundreds of metres from Monte Manfrè.) "I was going along, up that road, when suddenly I perceived two individuals at least 2 metres 15 cm. in height (7 ft.). They were beneath that aspen tree. I was extremely close to them—3 ft. or a little over. The light that was given off from their belts, as though they carried lamps, prevented me from seeing their faces well. They were dressed like the others, but the overalls seemed to me to be lighter in colour."

Everything happened just as on the first occasion. The two unknown beings commanded Siragusa: "Inform mankind of the following message . . .," and proceeded to dictate it to him by the usual method of "mental contact." Siragusa concluded: "When they had finished dictating to me, they said: 'Peace be with you,' making the same gesture as their two colleagues did in April."

This time, however, Siragusa was able to get a much better view of the saucer. "It was an enormous spinning-top, of a diameter of 25 metres (82 ft.), suspended in the air. From the

under part a metal cylinder over three metres long reached right down and touched the road. It had in it a small door. It was a sort of lift."

Siragusa says he was present at the take-off of the saucer. (And that same evening—it was mentioned in the newspapers—a luminous object was seen to cross the sky above Acireale, Bronte and Acitrezza.)

Albanesi says that only two opinions are possible. Some investigators have turned the saucers into a sort of religion, while others regard the matter from a purely realistic angle. Albanesi then concludes this story with the following remarks:

So far as Italy is concerned, the latter say that these bases are, specifically (1) on Mt. Etna, (2) on Maiella, (3) on Lake Como (whence the sightings along the Adriatic coast and on the Lario), and (4) along the Po, in the neighbourhood of Ferrara.

The extra-terrestrials are said, furthermore, to consist of two groups, namely those with a stature of from 1 metre 60 to 1 metre 80 (5 ft. 3 in. to 5 ft. 10½ in.), and those who are over 3 metres (9 ft. 10 in.).

The first-mentioned category are said to be circulating among us, while on the other hand the second type, no doubt because they are too tall, are said to remain concealed near their terrestrial bases in order to maintain contact with their planets of origin.

In conclusion: the intentions of these beings are said to be more than benevolent and pacific, in regard to ourselves at any rate, since they consider this planet of ours merely as a halt-station in the Cosmos.

In our next issue it is hoped that we may be able to publish further accounts from Italy which came to light as a result of Albanesi's investigation.

CELESTIAL FOOTBALLS

A strange story from Kimberley

ACCORDING to the *Diamond Fields Advertiser* for June 19, two extraordinary objects fell out of the sky on Sunday morning, June 15. They came to earth in the backyard of Mr. D. van Graan, of Ceres, near Kimberley, South Africa.

These objects, said Mr. van Graan, were about the size of soccer balls and made of some sort of material, about a quarter of an inch thick, with holes in it: it was soft, but he did not think it was made of rubber, plastic or leather.

In a statement to a *Diamond Fields Advertiser* reporter Mr. van Graan said: "I was in my pigeon loft when I thought I saw a flash of lightning, so I turned round and then I saw these two objects fall into the yard. They looked as though they might have had something inside originally."

Mr. van Graan put the objects into a paper bag in his pigeon loft. When he looked again on June 18, he found to his surprise that they had shrunk to about the size of a tennis ball and whereas they had been brown they were now white. He has given one to the town clerk, who will try to have it identified.

The Meteorological Department at the D. F. Malan Airport said that from the description it did sound as though their department was the right one to deal with the mystery.

The South African Air Force spokesman said it could not be theirs as they did not fly on Sunday. Anything dropping from a Sputnik would have been burnt up in the atmosphere.

(Credit to Mr. Phillip J. Human.)

A CHALLENGE TO THE TECHNICAL PRESS

by Leonard G. Cramp

The author of *Space, Gravity and the Flying Saucers* asks why the technical press of this country has never commented on the scientific evidence which he presented in his book published in 1954. He now re-states his case in the light of subsequent events and renews his demand that the evidence should at least be studied. The theory which the author puts forward has had to be condensed; even at the risk of over-simplification, for the purpose of this article, but he hopes to present it in full in a new book.

IT is eight years ago since Stephen Darbishire photographed the Coniston saucer. Eight years since the writer first examined and correlated the Darbishire and Adamski photographs by orthographic projection in *Space, Gravity and the Flying Saucer*.

At that time the scientific world was clamouring for "just one tiny shred of scientific evidence" to justify the existence of flying saucers. "Show us just one," they said, "and we might begin to think there is something in it."

The analysis of these two photographs was in the strictest sense scientific, and the resulting conclusions were fair and unbiased. Yet although these offered something a little better than the "tiniest shred of scientific evidence," for the only alternative amounted to a worldwide conspiracy, the conspicuous silence which followed, both in the national dailies and scientific Press, left no doubt as to their interest. Perhaps it was simply a case of the lay public Press not being able to understand, despite my attempts to portray the claim simply. Maybe it was out of sheer scientific aloofness that the technical Press chose to ignore it. But the fact remains—the analysis did not fail to impress all those who did read it. And further, the claim is just as valid today as it was eight years ago; it still stands up to sensible consideration.

Stephen Darbishire was nearly fourteen years old when, accompanied by his eight-year-old cousin Adrian, he photographed a saucer hovering near Lake Coniston.

Now, eight years later, the scene has been almost exactly duplicated in the Sheffield area. Although on this occasion the players have been changed, the circumstances remain strangely the same. This time another small boy, fourteen-year-old Alex Birch, and his friends were chosen for the principal parts. The circumstances of the sighting which bear an almost uncanny similarity to the Coniston sighting, have already been recorded in the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW. (See September-October, 1962, issue.)

It is interesting to note that, although it was Stephen Darbishire who had the camera and subsequently photographed the saucer, it had been his small cousin Adrian who had first spotted the saucer and had drawn Stephen's attention to it.

So with their recent counterparts near Sheffield. It was Alex Birch who had the camera and took the picture, but his young friend Stuart Dixon had first seen the saucers and excitedly pointed them out to Alex and his other friend David Brownlow. Not that we might be able to draw any significant conclusions from the similarity. As yet we cannot, but researchers will no doubt recognise a familiar pattern. Neither does the pattern end there, for once again there has emerged a "tiny shred of scientific evidence," which is difficult to refute or explain away as mere coincidence. The arguments of the technically inclined "experts" are getting painfully thin.

Once again the writer has been called upon to play a small part in this up-to-date play, and time has forged our metal a little sharper. Indeed, so much so, that the following "scientific facts" are set out here in the form of an open challenge to the scientific sceptic.

Over the last fifteen years or so, the writer has become increasingly convinced that flying saucers (among other things) are extra-terrestrial space ships powered by a form of gravitational control ("G. Field") the fundamental concept of which is set out at some length in *Space, Gravity and the Flying Saucer*.

The dual purpose of this article is to reconsider the "G Field Theory" in terms of more recent sightings and to offer one more shred of scientific evidence.

The basic postulate behind the writer's "G Field Theory" is the requirement that *all* the available technical evidence revealed by sightings shall fit harmoniously. That any superfluous or extravagant interpretations must be omitted. Each observation of character in itself must be contributory to the general theory rather than dominate it.

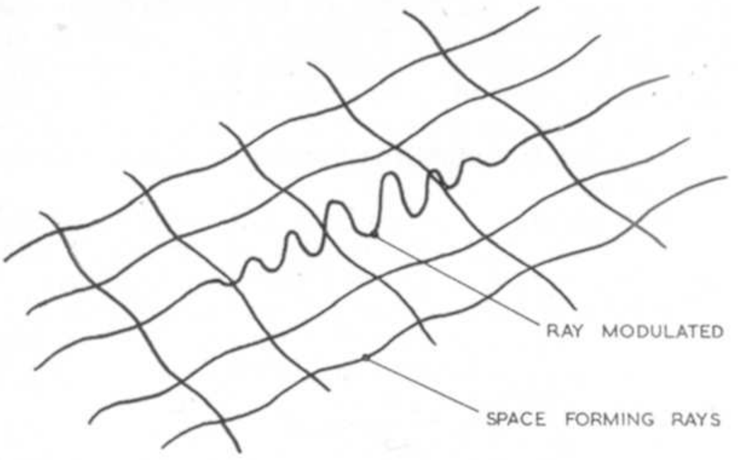


FIG. 1

Space is a gridwork of rays. Matter is a modulation.

Thus far the theory holds that space and matter are synonymous in so far as they are conditions formed by a gridwork of rays.[1] These rays are capable of being modulated to bring about all the phenomena known in matter and the electromagnet spectrum (Fig. 1).

Movement of matter is a modulation analogous to a ripple on a moving stream of water. Inertia is the inherent resistance of the rays of modulation. Gravitation is unbalanced inertia. The two conditions being represented in analogous form by a sphere immersed in water, there being an equal pressure all round. The water in this case represents the space forming rays (or ether), the sphere representing, say, an atom (Fig. 2.)

If the sphere is moved it experiences a drag, which in the analogy represents the resistance set up by the rays to further modulation, that is inertia. If now two spheres are brought near to one another, surface tension tends to unbalance the surrounding pressure so as to cause the bodies to move together, this in the analogy is akin to gravitation, or unbalanced inertia (Fig. 3).

If we liken the sphere to a space ship and the device capable of creating a cavitation on one side,

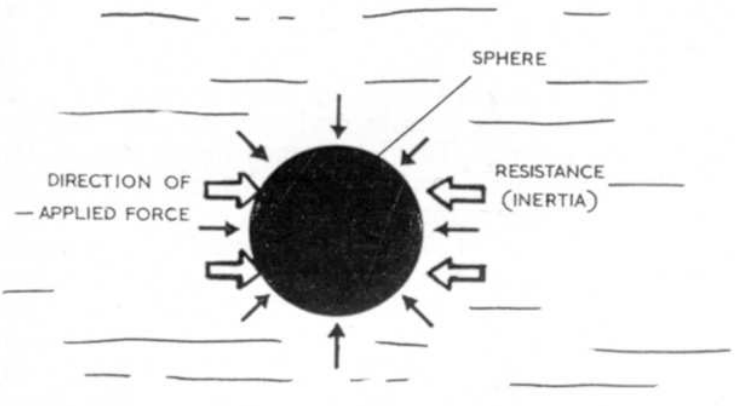


FIG. 2

Water analogy of space resistance (inertia).

then the sphere would be pushed or "fall" into it. This represents a saucer moving into its own generated gravitational field. If the cavity is continuously created, then the device will accelerate faster and faster (Fig. 4).

In the case of the real craft, every atom and every particle experiences an identical and individual force, therefore there are no internal stresses set up within the structure *or its crew*. This again in analogous form can best be illustrated by a line of railway trucks. If the end truck experiences motion, it collides with the adjoining truck, which in turn imparts the motion to *its* neighbours, and so on. Were the trucks to be molecules and the applied force sufficiently great, then, due to their inherent inertia, the system would collapse. (Structural breakdown.) Note, an identical situation arises in either acceleration or deceleration, in both cases it is simply a matter of rapid *change of motion*.

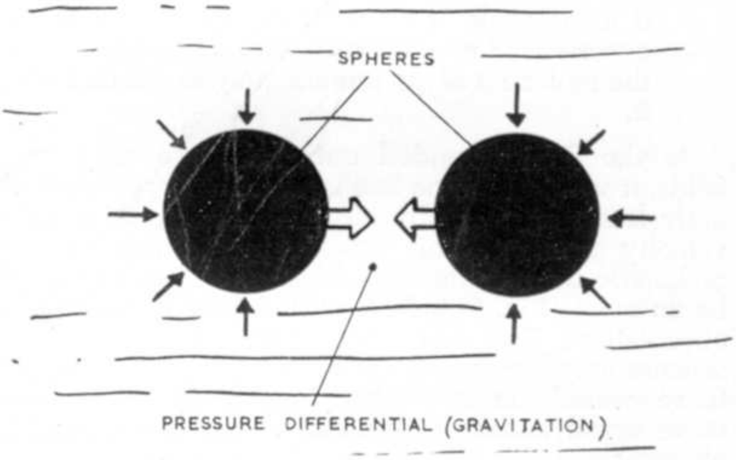


FIG.3

Water analogy of gravitation (unbalanced inertia).

Now, if the small trucks were to be given an identical and individual push all at the same instant, there would be no collision and if they were to represent molecules in a structure, then there would be no breakdown. By this means a body can be accelerated or decelerated at thousands upon thousands of g's without structural failure (Fig. 5).

If a space ship were to operate by such a principle, these are some of the conclusions we might draw:

1. When the G Field was low in intensity, as might be at the beginning of a short take off, then similarly the extension of the field might be restricted to within the boundaries of the craft. Surrounding air would be displaced as with a conventional aircraft and if a witness were to be close, one would hear a swishing noise. This has frequently been the case[2] (Fig. 6a).

[1] See Mr. Antony Avenel's theory "The Unity of Creation" in *Space, Gravity and the Flying Saucer.*

[2] See report on the Coniston landing and others.

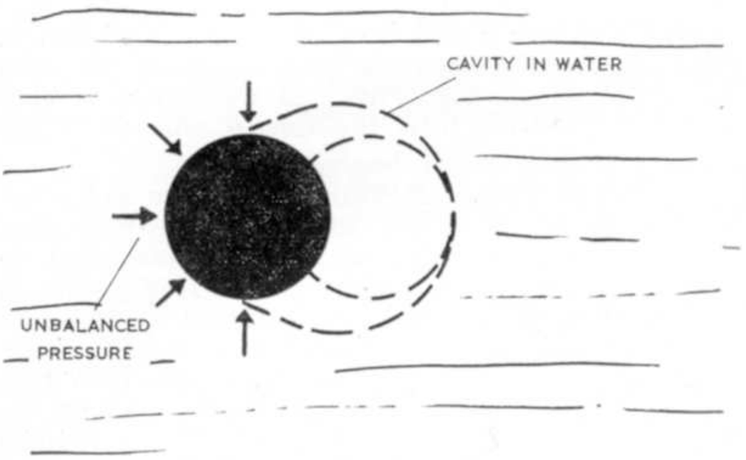


FIG. 4

Water analogy of "G Field" propulsion.

2. If now the field were to be increased, it would also extend beyond the perimeter of the craft. if a molecule at the extremity of the machine experienced a thrust of one unit, then so would the molecule of air immediately in contact with it.

As the field extended outwards, like all known fields, it would become less intense, with correspondingly less thrust on the air molecules, producing a velocity gradient. This would obviate aerodynamic or kinetic heating through friction, also there would be no noise (Fig. 6b). Again this is also borne out by observation. The suggestion that luminescence of saucers may be caused by friction, is untenable, for there would be accompanying shock waves and other aerodynamic disturbances. This is contrary to observation.

If such a craft were to be low, say thirty or forty feet, and moving in the same direction and at the same speed as a moving car, then because the strength of the field would be falling off inversely proportional to the square of the distance, the car might experience only a slight thrust which in all probability would be unnoticeable to the driver (Fig. 7). This has proved to be so on many occasions, the latest case being that on the Leicestershire-Derbyshire border. Note that the car displayed no tendency to slow up.

Although this case has been adequately reported elsewhere, it is felt the context of the report warrants inclusion. One report carries this heading:

"Riddle of 'The Thing' in the Midnight Sky."

A wife spoke last night of a strange object which, she said, hovered over her husband's car during a midnight drive.

The woman, Mrs. Myra Jones, of Norrishill, Moira, Leicestershire, said the object appeared as they drove along country lanes on the Leicestershire-Derbyshire border on Thursday (September 13).

Mrs. Jones went on: "I saw a light over the car, leaned forward and looked up through the windscreen. Right above the car at about the height of the telegraph poles was a grey luminous object bigger than the car. It was curved underneath and the top was domed like a child's humming top. There were dark spots round the rim of the base and the whole thing seemed to be tilted slightly and to be revolving. I was absolutely terrified. I thought it was going to land on the bonnet. Then it made a *swishing noise* like a rocket and disappeared."

Note also there was no marked tendency to slow the car up and again the phenomena was accompanied by a swishing noise, bearing evidence of aerodynamic displacement, which, due to the comparatively low speed of the vehicles and the resulting low intensity of the propulsive field, is required by the theory. It is logical to suppose that the thrust field could be generated in any direction and in all planes, it being in no way peculiar to the earth's gravitational field. If the field were to be generated fore and aft, the machine would be held stationary. Similarly, if the thrust were to be generated through 360° again the machine would be immobilised. But, and this is important, any movable object near the craft's edge would move or "fall" away from it, it being subject to only one part of the field. If the machine were to be hovering fairly close to the ground, an approaching car would be braked harder and harder, the closer it got to the saucer, until (if it could get that near) it would start to move or "fall" away again (Fig. 8). This braking tendency near to a grounded saucer has been recorded several times, when both people and cars experienced the same strong force. The latest case being that of Mr. Wildman when delivering a new Vauxhall car in the early hours of February 9, 1962:

"I left home at 3 a.m. to proceed to Swansea with a new estate car from the factory. I had driven through Dunstable and was approaching the cross-roads at the end of the deserted Ivinghoe road at Aston Clinton, the time now being 3.30 a.m. approximately. Then I saw something—it was oval shaped and white with black marks at regular intervals round it, which could have been port-holes or air

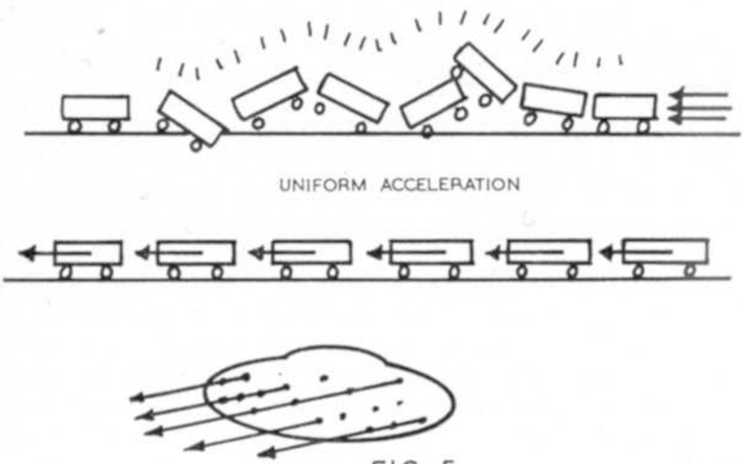


FIG. 5

Analogous representation of molecular acceleration in a progressive field and a uniform "G Field."

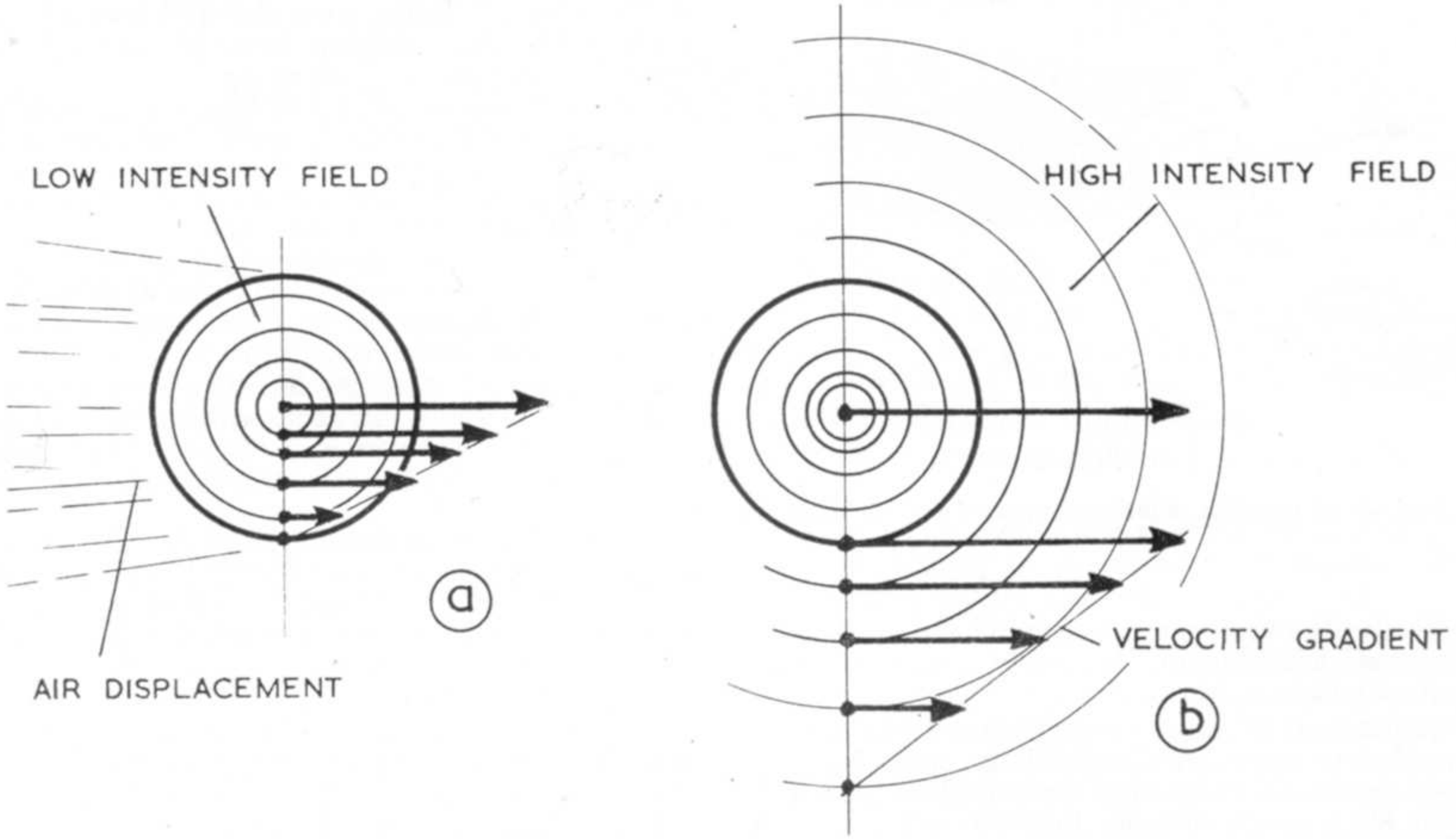


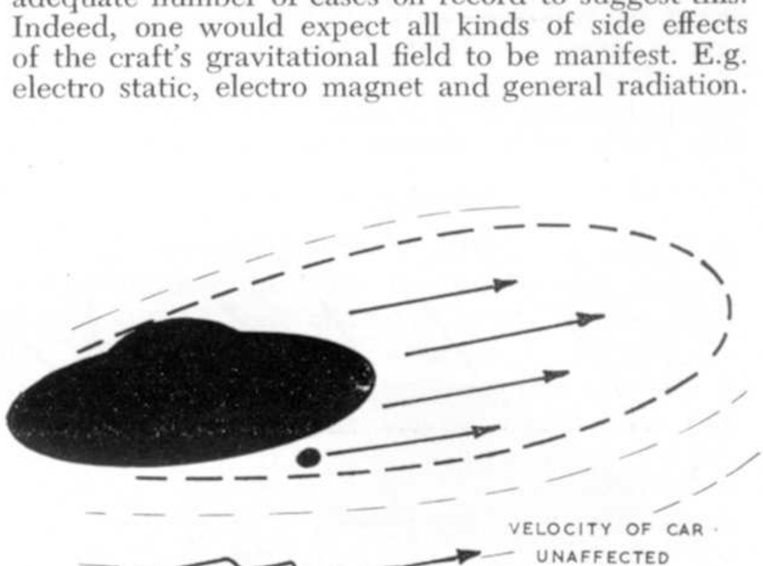
FIG. 6

(Left) Low power. Field restricted within compass of vehicle. Local air displacement. (Right) High intensity field, extending beyond perimeter of vehicle. Cushioned air displacement.

vents. It was about twenty or thirty feet above the ground and at least forty feet wide across—which, in my estimation, was fantastic.

"As soon as I came within twenty yards of it the power of my car changed, dropped right down to twenty m.p.h. I changed down into second and put my foot flat on the accelerator—nothing happened. I had my headlights full on and although the engine lost revs. the lights did not fade. The object, which was silent, kept ahead of me by approximately twenty feet for 200 yards, then started to come lower—it continued like this till it came to the end of the stretch—then a white haze appeared around it, like a halo around the moon. It veered off to the right at a terrific speed and vanished; as it did so it brushed particles of frost from the tree tops on to my windscreen."

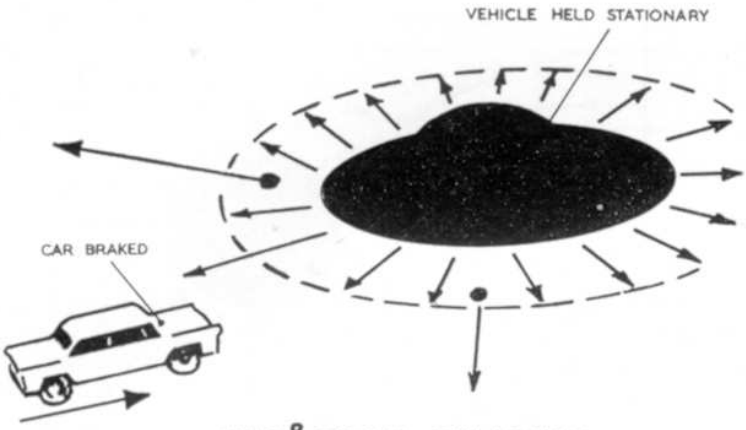
Now, if such a machine were to be subjected to a circumferential "G field," then it follows that every molecule within its structure would experience an outward pull. And perhaps significantly, if the power were to be suddenly generated beyond molecular cohesion, the whole thing would volatilise, molecule, nay, atom by atom! This might prove to be quite a handy little way of rendering an expendable space craft redundant. Certainly it would prove more practical and far more effective than an installed conventional explosive to do the same job. But it would also, and in all probability does, present an unpleasant natural hazard! There is certainly an adequate number of cases on record to suggest this. Indeed, one would expect all kinds of side effects of the craft's gravitational field to be manifest. E.g. electro static, electro magnet and general radiation.



LONGITUDINAL THRUST PHASING

FIG. 7

Analysis of Leicestershire-Derbyshire sighting supported by "G Field" theory.



360° FIELD PHASING

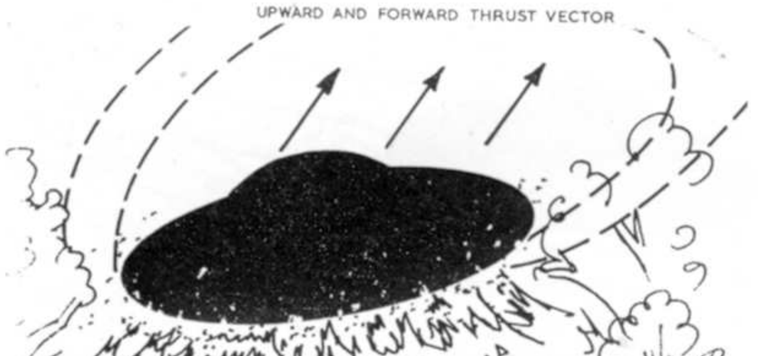
FIG. 8

Analysis of Ivinghoe sighting supported by " G Field " theory.

This also has proved to be the case, i.e. boiling car batteries, heated coils, deranged compasses, magnetised metals and so on.

At take off it might be more convenient for the machine to remain a short distance above ground level, for should the vertical thrust field be generated high for a quick take off, then the negative " g " effect might lift any moveable object beneath the vehicle. There are on record cases where saucers have taken off violently, sucking up the ground beneath them as they did so. In one case leaving no mean sized crater in a private lawn to mark the occasion (Fig. 9).

I had the opportunity of investigating closely the sighting at Ryde, Isle of Wight, last year and a report on this was later published in the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW (see November-December, 1961, issue). Here also the craft moved away violently, so fast, it may be remembered, it left the witnesses, Mrs. Smith and her daughter Mrs. Taylor, " dizzy at the speed of it." Rising from the spot was left " a slowly expanding, glowing ring of smoke "—or debris?



S.T.O. HIGH THRUST PHASE

FIG. 9

Reports of rising debris, ground upheaval and craters are also supported by the theory.

And so we might go on. In fact, the amount of available evidence to support the G field concept is so complete as to leave no further doubt. We have simply reconsidered some aspects of it here in the light of the more recent happenings.

An account of the Sheffield sighting has already been published in the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, but because of its importance, we have repeated it here so as not to miss the salient details.

Last February, Alex Birch, a fourteen-year-old schoolboy, was taking snapshots with his box camera of his dog in the back garden of his home at 12 Moor Crescent, Nosborough, near Sheffield, when, in his own words:

" I suddenly noticed five objects in the sky—about 500 feet up. They were not moving and they made no sound. The possibility that they might have been flying saucers did not cross my mind at the time."

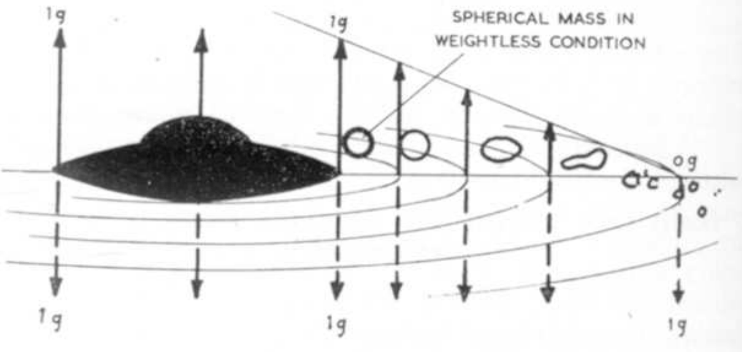


FIG. 10

Analysis of Sheffield sighting supported by the theory.

With him at the time were his friends, David Brownlow, aged twelve, also of Moor Crescent, and sixteen-year-old Stuart Dixon, of the British Oak Inn, Mosborough. " I think it was for about four seconds, when suddenly there appeared dazzling balls or blobs of light from the region of the objects, which seemed to dim. Then other blobs appeared and the same thing repeated itself. I thought of my camera. It seemed as if seeing the lights urged me on to try and snap them, which I promptly did and as I did so the lights seemed to dim and die away. Suddenly the objects seemed to move, as if gathering speed, then shoot off at a terrific rate in a north-easterly direction over Sheffield. There was no sound at any time."

I would like to sum up this brief analysis by correlating the Sheffield sighting to the G field theory. In doing so I would ask the reader seriously to consider the witness's age, which in this case is a mere fourteen years.

(Continued on page iii of cover)

UFOs OVER ANCIENT ROME

BY W. R. DRAKE

"But I return to the divination of the Romans. How often has our Senate enjoined the decemvirs to consult the books of the Sibyls! For instance when two suns had been seen or when three moons had appeared and when flames of fire were noticed in the sky; or on that other occasion when the sun was beheld in the night, when noises were heard in the sky, and the heaven itself seemed to burst open, and strange globes were remarked in it."

(*Cicero. "On Divination." Book* 1, *Chap. XLIII.*)

IF the literature of antiquity could prove that spacemen visited our Earth long ago, would this wondrous revelation not transform the past, inspire the present, give hope to the future, bring new meaning to man himself? Our religions, philosophies and culture were based on the belief that our world was the centre of the universe and mankind the sole preoccupation of God. Would proof that Earth was once ruled by beings from other planets not seem the fundamental discovery of our century?

Students of antiquity are desolated by the scanty records bequeathed by civilisations of the past. Initiates like Pythagoras distrusted writing, their wisdom was preserved orally within the secrecy of the Mystery Schools. The famous library at Alexandria was accidentally burned to the ground by Julius Caesar; the early Christians destroyed most pagan writings. Livy's *History* comprised 142 books, only 35 are extant; Varro composed 490 books, yet only two survive. For thousands of years the astrologer-priests studied the skies; of the countless celestial objects they must have sighted what evidence remains?

A century ago a German grocer, Heinrich Schliemann, with the *Iliad* as guide-book, defied the ridicule of the professors and dug up Troy. Can we not dig from the Classics records of spaceships? Do those dry pages conceal the key to flying saucers? Suspecting that our conventional thought seemed some confidence trick, I selected about fifty writers of antiquity and scrutinised their main works through a UFO "lens." At the outset I sat baffled like Champollion studying the Rosetta Stone. Then as records of extra-terrestrials accumulated, the jig-saw clicked into a glorious picture, a blinding revelation which revolutionised theology, philosophy, our whole conception of man's past. In reaction, such grandiose conclusion struck me as absurd. Scholars had studied the Classics for centuries; could the old truths suddenly shine new? Commonsense denies that our fundamental beliefs are wrong. Yet I wonder? Let the ancient writers speak for themselves.

Priests, poets and mythologists prove the wide-spread, deep-rooted influence of the "Sky Father" with his pantheon of Gods on all the peoples of antiquity. Everyone regarded the Gods as supermen living just out of sight, and welcomed their descent from the skies to educate or entertain the mortals on Earth. Homer and Virgil depicted the Gods as taking sides in the Siege of Troy; Diogenes Laertius and Ovid lyricised their scandalous love-affairs; Hesiod and Apollodorus described the War between Gods and Titans, recorded in legends all over the Earth. Our own theologians dismiss the ancient Gods as anthropomorphisms of natural forces, as if entire races for hundreds of years would base their daily lives on lightnings or thunderbolts. A Schliemann versed in our saucer lore would say the old stories meant just what they said: the Gods from heaven were spacemen.

A new perspective

Viewed through our UFO perspective the plays of Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides and Aristophanes approximate classical science-fiction. Was the "Deus ex Machina" appearing and delivering judgment to close Greek dramas actually a race-memory of those spacemen, who once did intervene in human affairs? Manetho recorded the God-Kings of Egypt; Berossus, the divine rulers of Babylon 432,000 years before the Flood; Sanchoniathon hinted at Gods waging air-battles over Phoenicia. Ovid and Varro recalled that Italy was known as Saturnia ruled by Saturn in a Golden Age followed by a Silver Age under Jupiter, suggesting domination by space beings, who after War with the Giants and natural calamities returned to their own planets, thereafter visiting Earth only occasionally to survey man's evolution and perhaps to land individual

Missionaries in secret to teach chosen Initiates. Race memories coupled with ancestor worship all over the world deified the departed Space-Kings as Gods.

"But the Gods have appeared to us, as to Posthumius at the Lake Regillus, and to Vatienus in the Salarian Way; something you mentioned, too, I know not what, of a battle of the Locrians at Sagra."

(Cicero, *Of the Nature of the Gods,* Book III, Chap. V.)

While UFO students hail lights in the sky as ships from other worlds and cheerfully demolish conventional science for a blip on some radar-scope, they tend to feel outraged at the romanticism of the poets, ancient or modern, so it is timely now to submit evidence perhaps more scientific from the classic historians.

More references

The Egyptians apparently did not write history, each generation merely boasting the glory of its own Pharaoh; the cuneiform tablets of Babylon extolled warlike Kings, though references to "God" and "Angels" in the Old Testament and the Talmud seemed to associate the Middle East with visitors from space. Thucydides, Xenophon, Tacitus and Caesar, like our historians today, were too immersed in wars and politics to heed celestial objects overhead. Livy and Plutarch mentioned a "comet" (a UFO?) seen in 480 B.C. during the Greek naval victory over the Persians at Salamis, recalling the "comet" over the Battle of Hastings and the "foo-fighters" of the Hitler war. Plato, Aristotle and the Philosophers gossiped about the Gods as though they lived next door. Pliny the Elder said the Greeks designated the world as "kosmos" meaning "ornament," the Romans named it "mundus," "elegant," because of its perfect finish and grace. He agreed with Varro that "coelum" ("heaven") came from "cavum," meaning "hollow." Aristotle explained that the seven wandering stars ("planetai") shone because of the friction caused by motion through the air. If the intelligentsia believed this, what views did the ignorant hold?

About 200 B.C. Polybius wrote: "The characteristic for which in my opinion the Roman Empire is superior to all others lies in its religion. This, which in other nations would be considered deplorable superstition, here in Rome is the very corner-stone of the State." The Romans worshipped the Gods for a thousand years and their augurs prophesied the future from signs in the skies. Julius Obsequens recorded 63 celestial phenomena, Livy 30, Pliny 26, Dio Cassius 14, Cicero 9, confirming their psychological impact on the educated Roman mind. Lycosthenes, writing in 1552 A.D., collated 59 heavenly portents in Roman times.

Analysis of the fifty classical writers studied (including Lycosthenes) may be summarised as follows:

Lights etc. in sky, 39.	New star, 10.
Shields etc. in sky, 11.	Falling lights etc., 5.
Fiery globes in sky, 6.	Falling star, 2.
Ships in sky, 7.	"Gods" down to earth, 11.
"Men" in sky, 7.	"Men" from earth to sky, 5.
"Armies" in sky, 1.	Skyships, 9.
Two or more moons, 8.	War in skies, 5.
Two or more suns, 12.	Possible UFO, 7.
Sun at night, 5.	Unknown voice, 6.

Obsequens and Lycosthenes anticipated Charles Fort by quoting numerous incidents of stones, blood, milk and earth falling from the skies.

Two thousand years ago a Roman FLYING SAUCER REVIEW would have published the following sightings by most distinguished contributors:

222 B.C. "Also three moons have appeared at once, for instance in the consulship of Gnaeus Domitius and Gaius Fannius." (Pliny, *Natural History,* Book II, Chap. XXXII.)

218 B.C. "In Amiterno district in many places were seen the appearance of men in white garments from far away. The orb of the sun grew smaller. At Praeneste glowing lamps from heaven. At Arpi a shield in the sky. The moon contended with the sun and during the night two moons were seen. Phantom ships appeared in the sky." (Lycosthenes - Obsequens, *Prodigiorum Libellus,* Chap. XXXI. Livy, Book XXI, Chap. LXII, and Book XXII, Chap I.)

214 B.C. "At Hadria an altar was seen in the sky and about it the forms of man in white clothes. (Livy, Book XXI, Chap. LXII.)

213 B.C. "At Ariminium a light like the day blazed out at night in many portions of Italy. Three moons became visible in the night-time. (Dio Cassius, *Roman History,* Vol. II, page 46.)

175 B.C. "Three suns shone at the same time. That night several stars glided across the sky at Lanuvium." (Obsequens, Chap. LXVI.)

122 B.C. "In Gaul three suns and three moons were seen." (Obsequens, Chap. XLII.)

91 B.C. "Near Spoletium a gold-coloured fireball rolled down to the ground, increased in size, it seemed to move off the ground towards the east and was big enough to blot out the sun." (Obsequens, Chap. CXIV.)

85 B.C. "In the consulship of Lucius Valerius and Gaius Marius a burning shield scattering sparks ran across the sky." (Pliny, *Natural History,* Book II, Chap. XXXIV.)

66 B.C. "In the consulship of Gnaeus Octavius and Gaius Suetonius a spark was seen to fall from a star and increase in size as it approached the earth and after becoming as large as the moon it diffused a sort of cloudy daylight and then returning to the sky changed into a torch. This is the only record of its occurrence. It was seen by the proconsul Silenus and his suite." (Pliny, *Natural History,* Book II, Chap. XXXV.)

42 B.C. "In Rome light shone so brightly at nightfall that people got up to begin work as though day had dawned. At Murtino three suns were seen about the third hour of the day, which presently drew together into a single orb." (Obsequens, Chap. CXXX.)

These celestial objects were seen and recorded two thousand years ago by people who had never heard of flying saucers. Can they be glibly explained away by the double-talk of Air Force experts? If the UFOs of antiquity were real, so must those be today!

The "Angels," the celestial voices, the lights from heaven, the translations to the skies, the intervention of a "God" in human affairs, the very substance of our Bible, are paralleled by similar phenomena quoted by Livy. If we so readily believe the "wonders" of Israel, should we not accord equal credence to the "prodigies" of Rome? The Mystery of Christ shines with new meaning in the light of our spacemen. In A.D. 312 near Rome (or in the Alps?) the pagan Constantine and all his army marvelled at a fiery cross in the sky under which flamed the words "In hoc signo vinces." Constantine welcomed this omen, allied with the Christians, defeated Emperor Maxentius and established Christianity as the State religion three hundred years after the death of its Founder. Did Christianity owe its establishment to a UFO? Was the alleged writing phenomena of the UFO's force-field?

Similar analyses of British legends, Bede's *Ecclesiastical History* and the "Anglo-Saxon Chronicle" suggest that spacemen surveyed Ancient Britain and Saxon England.

I submit that the word "God" has at least two distinct meanings. The Absolute imagining the universe in Whom we live and move, and the local "Gods" or space beings, who originate from some advanced planet and from time to time manifest themselves among men.

Today we realise our Earth is not the centre of Creation but a grain of dust in a space-time universe including universes of various dimensions co-existing within our own, all paralleled by a possible universe of anti-matter.

In all humility I suggest that many of our fundamental conceptions are based on false premises. We should sweep away the dust and dogma of centuries and study phenomena as they really happened. The classical sightings of the past confirm the UFOs of the present.

Sighting reports . . .

From England, Eire, Scotland, South Africa,

New Zealand, Canada and Australia

. . . in this issue

UFO SURVEY OF SPAIN: MORE EVIDENCE

by Antonio Ribera

As promised in the July-August 1962 issue of the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, I am now in a position to publish the orthotenic map of Spain, showing the deliberate survey to which the Iberian Peninsula was submitted, with a special stress on the Spring " wave " of 1950. I have been able to complete this research, thanks to the new leads on orthotenics given to me by Jacques Vallée, whose words I quote again: " . . . there is no reason why the day of 24 hours should be the only basis, even if this seems to play a particular role in periods of great activity." (See the March-April issue, containing the article by Vallée.)

The results were most surprising and revealing. In France, the " dispersion points " where the " mother ships " stationed themselves in order to send in all directions the " scout ships " following straight lines (orthotenies), where preferably in the mainland, due to the geographical shape of France and its relative lack of a long coastline. Accordingly, the ideal spot to situate a " mother ship," in France, is around its geographic centre (cf., for instance, the orthotenic network of October 7, 1954, in Aimé Michel's work *Flying Saucers and the Straight Line Mystery*). In this case, the " mother ship " was above Montlevic, very near the geographic centre of France and from where the radial orthotenies could reach to practically every corner of French metropolitan territory. But the examples of " dispersion centres " near the geographical centre of France are common in Michel's work.

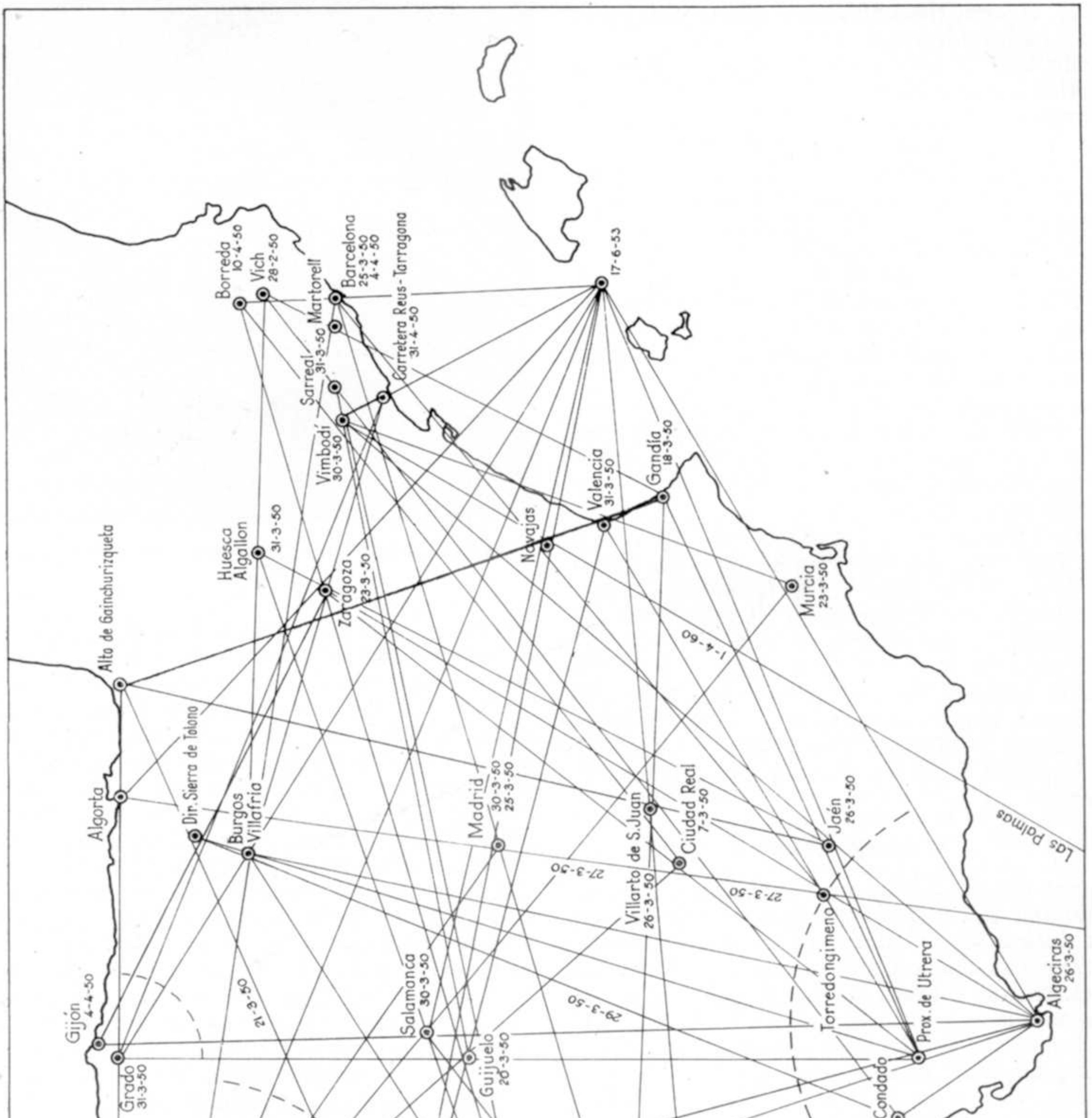
In Spain, however, a country which with Portugal has several thousand kilometres of coastline and a generally square shape (Spain is known of old as the " bull's skin "), it was more convenient and practical to put the dispersion centres along the coast, in four or five well-chosen spots, from which they could cover all Spain with a network of orthotenies. And so (see map), these spots were in a counter-clockwise direction beginning from the south: Algeciras (most important centre of dispersion); Entroncamento, in Portugal; the twin points Santiago and La Coruña, in Galicia; Gijón or Grado; Algorta (Bilbao) and Altos de Gainchurizqueta; Algallón (Huesca) and Borredá-Vic (the only points not in the coastline); a point between Majorca and Ibiza (meant to cover the depression or concavity of the coast between Barcelona and Gandia; a place offshore was needed here, and, most extraordinarily, we had it!); Gandia itself and Murcia are secondary points.

Several things become immediately obvious: *They* have, as deliberately, left out two geographical zones: Algarve (Portugal) and Extremadura (Spain), both in the S.W. of the Peninsula. Also, the Pyrenees. Why? The former are quite deserted zones, of no interest whatsoever. As to the latter, the Pyrenees are a mountain range uninhabited in the most part. On the other hand, note that the most important Spanish and Portuguese towns have been surveyed: Madrid, Barcelona, Lisbon, Valencia, Santiago, La Coruña, Gijón, Salamanca, Burgos, Oporto, and so on. Also, a special stress has been put on military places, as the Villafría airfield (Burgos); Gibraltar (Algeciras); Zaragoza (military airfield); Sarreal and Vimbodí (Reus military airfield near there); La Coruña (Navy base), etc. Everything, then, points to an intelligent, deliberate survey of the Peninsula, made because of its special geographic characteristics.

An important sighting

All the sightings were found in the Spanish press of the epoch, and all belong to the Spring, 1950, wave, with the exception of a sighting of La Coruña dated January 30, 1962, and the important sighting of the Balearic Islands, dated June 17, 1953. This sighting is most important, and I am going now to explain it, along with some other important Spanish sightings:

At the end of June, 1953, hundreds of people saw both from Majorca and Ibiza a bright object, still at a great height in the sky. Some officers of a coast battery triangulated its height, which was of some 45 kilometres. To the naked eye, it had an oval shape; seen through binoculars, it looked arrow-shaped. It was first seen by some Ibizan fishermen on June 17 at 5 p.m. The following days it was visible from two p.m. to



17-6-53
Borreda
10-4-50
Vich
28-2-50
Barcelona
25-3-50
4-4-50
Martorell
Carretera Reus - Tarragona
31-4-50
Sarreal
31-3-50
Vimbodí
30-3-50
Gandía
18-3-50
Valencia
31-3-50
Navajas
Huesca
Algallon
31-3-50
Zaragoza
23-3-50
Murcia
23-3-50
1-4-60
Alto de Gainchurizqueta
Algorta
Dir. Sierra de Tolono
Burgos
Villafría
Madrid
30-3-50
25-3-50
Villarto de S. Juan
26-3-50
Ciudad Real
7-3-50
Jaén
26-3-50
Las Palmas
27-3-50
27-3-50
Torredongimeno
Prox. de Utrera
Algeciras
26-3-50
Salamanca
30-3-50
21-3-50
29-3-50
Gijón
4-4-50
Grado
31-3-50
Guijuelo
20-3-50
La Palma del Condado
Sta. Cruz de Tenerife
Alto del Odicio
24-3-50
Orense
28-3-50
La Coruña
30-1-62
Oliveira de Hospital
23-3-50
Espadeira
24-3-50
Santiago
31-3-50
Leixões
Oporto
Entroncamento
23-3-50
Lisboa
4-4-50
¿ó de las Azores?

some time after the sunset, as a bright object in the sky. It went through all the changes in coloration which underwent the clouds at the sunset, proving that it was a solid object, capable of reflecting the sunshine.

It was exactly on the vertical of the Straight of Ibiza, between this island and Majorca.

Gonzalo Rubinos Ramos, official driver of the Jefatura Provincial del Movimiento, was in a state of great excitement and fear when he arrived at La Coruña from Santiago de Compostela (Galicia), on the night of November 6, 1954. He said that in a place called "Curva del Obispo" (Bishop's Bend), his car stalled, his lights went out and then he saw a big, glowing, reddish thing near the road. After a while, the thing went up with a soft explosion. This happened at 10.40 p.m. Very upset, the Señor Rubinos Ramos climbed into his car, where he prayed for a long time before resolving itself to go to La Coruña.

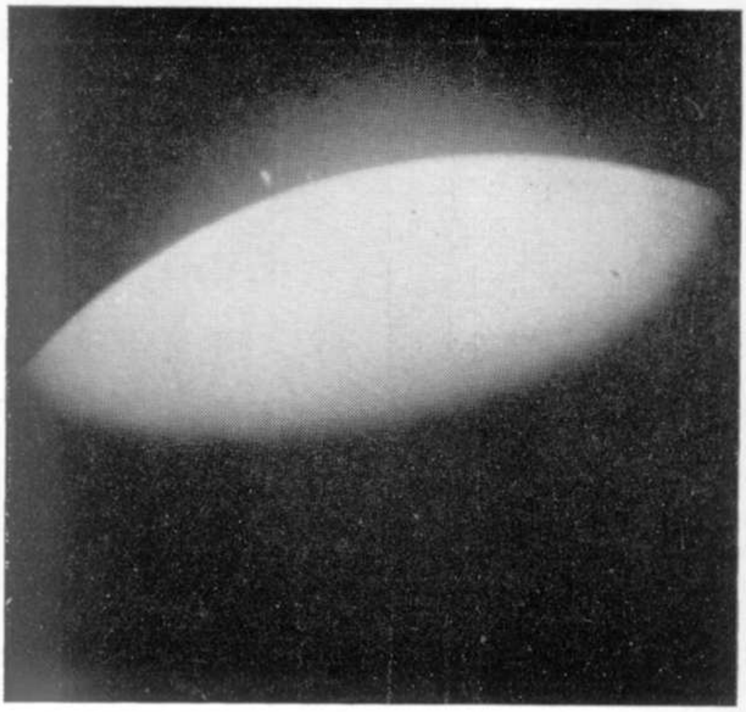
At the time, Sr. Rubinos Ramos was generally ridiculed (however, he being a very reputable man), but some time ago one of my correspondents, Don Oscar Rey, chief radioman in the Radiotelegraphic Station in La Coruña, wrote me that *exactly* at the same time that Rubinos had his strange encounter, their radio set had the greatest interference and static noise they had ever heard. Was it caused by the magnetic field of the "saucer"? Maybe. (The "Bishop's Bend" is 42 kilometres from La Coruña and its wireless station.)

A strange object

About the same time that hundreds of people in Majorca and Ibiza saw a strange object in the skies during several days, all the inhabitants of El Provencio, Cuenca, observed a strange circular object, still at a great height. It looked like the full moon; it was whitish, with a silvery edge and very luminous. Suddenly, it changed its position, turning sidewise. In this position it looked like a flat disc, with a small bump in the centre. Don Manuel Carlos Ruiz Schick took two photographs of the object with a Robot camera, similar to those used by the Luftwaffe during the war.

The "spaceship" remained at a very great height above El Provencio from 7 a.m. until midday. It seemed to follow the rotation movement of Earth. One of the Schick photographs is reproduced here. This happened on June 26, 1953.

Between the end of October, 1959, and the beginning of March, 1960, there were a series of sightings in the East Vallés (region of Barcelona) which we consider most important. The witnesses, in some of them, numbered hundreds, but only one of them had the courage, the method and the interest necessary to note them down and keep a record of them.



One of Shick's photographs referred to in the text.

This exceptional witness was the owner of a farm in the hamlet of Las Franquesas, near the town of Granollers. This man was Josep Ganduixer who is a strong, level-headed countryman of about 40, and his farm—Mas Cabrit—is situated on top of a small hill, from which one can see a wide expanse of land, from the Pyrenees north to the coastal range east and the Montseny and Montserrat mountains. Ganduixer gets up very early in the morning—usually at half-past four—to feed the livestock, to milk the cows and to do other country chores, and this is a good reason why he was able to see these interesting sightings. Most of them were made just before the sunrise, when the sun rays lighted from under the "things," which shone like melted silver. Also, and similarly, other observations were made at sunset, and for the same reasons.

The sightings were quite all of big "mother ships," large silvery cylinders which shone dazzingly before sunrise and after sunset. Ganduixer firmly believes that they shone so because of the metal they were made of. They were often very distant, cruising serenely over the Pyrenees or along the coast. They had to be enormous, to be seen from such a distance (sometimes in the order of 100 kilometres).

The sightings took place on October 24, 1959 ("mother ship" which cruised slowly over East Vallés, seen by scores of people like a silvery cylinder, first horizontal and then tilted at 45°

angle regarding the horizon); January 5, 1960 (four discs, tilted and absolutely still); February 20, 1960 (magnificent aerial ballet, with three "mother ships" and eleven discs, with two other nearer the witnesses); March 2, 1960 (saucer seen at sunset, dive-falling over Montserrat); and last sighting reported, March 15, 1960 (two discs parting at sunset, one northwards and the latter southwards).

The October 25, 1959, sighting caused an avalanche of letters and calls to newspapers and radio stations. Radio Barcelona commented on it several times, and the weather technicians did their best to transform the rigid, torpedo-shaped "mother-ship" into a common weather balloon. They didn't succeed, of course. As for the other sightings, Ganduixer was able to call other people as witnesses. These were his mother and sister, and also his labourers. At the same time, he took sightings putting stakes in the ground and drawing simple, elementary maps, as reproduced here. If we have to believe Ganduixer—and I, for one, believe him, since in my opinion he is an honest, truthful man, who has already gone through a lot of trouble among his neighbours due to his "sightings of strange things in the sky"—he is the only man alive who has seen such a number of extraterrestrial spaceships. Moreover, some of the details he gave me sounded authentic (for instance, the tilting of the big cylinders, the time of the sightings, and others similar to those observed in Oloron (France), and other places where big "mother ships" have been observed. Ganduixer, with his limited cultural background—he speaks and writes, very badly at that, only Spanish and Catalan—couldn't know these things. He is a simple, healthy countryman, to whom Fate chose to be a very exceptional witness of things not of this Earth.

The Orthotenies

And lastly, here is a brief list of the more important orthotenies marked on my map:

1. 3 points. 570 km. Algeciras—La Palma del Condado—Entroncamento.
2. 3 points. 1,100 km. Algeciras—Salamanca—Gijón.
3. 4 points. 1,160 km. Algeciras—Torredonjimeno—Zaragoza—Huesca.
4. 3 points. 720 km. Near Utrera—Torredonjimeno—Valencia.
5. 3 points. 910 km. Jaén—Villarta de San Juan—Altos de Gainchurizqueta.
6. 3 points. 1,035 km. Entroncamento—Villarta de San Juan—Gandia.
7. 4 points. 1,200 km. Vich—Huesca—Burgos (Villafría)—Altos del Odicio.
8. 3 points. 1,080 km. To Sierra de Tolono—Burgos—Algeciras.

These are the proven orthotenies, which have been carefully checked. A similar work is under way for the remaining ones, but I hope to have all of them verified, specially those centred between the Balearic Islands.

Summing up, we can say that we have two kinds of evidence regarding the UFO visitation of Spain, begun in the Spring, 1950: direct evidence (as represented by the witnesses' sightings) and indirect evidence (as represented by the orthotenies made using all the points where sightings were registered).

The direct evidence is very considerable. Owing to lack of space, only a few examples have been reproduced here; they could be called the Spanish "classics," but dozens of other interesting sightings could also be quoted. The indirect evidence looks foolproof; in this case the network adapted itself to the special geographic characteristics of Spain (as it did in France, the Mohgreb and Brazil, as the students of orthoteny in these countries, Aimé Michel, Jacques Vallée and Dr. Olavo Fontes, respectively, have demonstrated).

It would be very interesting to follow this study in other countries; gradually we should be able to gather material for a general orthotenic map of Earth. Maybe then we could guess what lies behind this seemingly military reconnaissance of our globe!

THE UFO SLEDGEHAMMER

by Wade Wellman

In the Spring of 1963, Dr. Menzel is publishing another book intended to debunk finally the flying saucers. The following article is, therefore, a timely reminder that despite his academic standing, Dr. Menzel is by no means infallible and, on several occasions, has displayed a closed mind when confronting the great mystery of the skies.

AMONG those scientists who deny that unidentified flying objects have an extraterrestrial origin, none has been quite so vociferous as Dr. Donald H. Menzel, director of the Harvard University Observatory. Believers in the interplanetary theory have never found another opponent so dedicated, at least in the United States. Multiple questions arise as to why Dr. Menzel is so preoccupied with a subject in which he places no credence whatever. He has said that he feels it his duty to fight ignorance and superstition wherever he finds them, but the psychology probably lies a great deal deeper than this. I do not presume to explain it; perhaps Dr. Menzel himself could not given the real reason for his obsession with the topic.

Students of the UFO mystery should not allow his dogged opposition to blind them to the real facts about Menzel's astronomical stature. He belongs, I think, in any list of the top five astrophysicists in the United States, and his standing as a meteorologist is considerable. He has a strong interest in geophysics, and has travelled on scientific expeditions around the North Pole and Alaska. Mechanics and aeronautics interest him somewhat; he can fly an airplane though he isn't a licensed pilot. Intellectually and scientifically, he surely must be thought of as a most substantial person, and I only regret that no one can tap the psychology behind his attitude.

Dr. Menzel has not, in my opinion, seriously weakened public belief in the interplanetary theory, though I don't like to think of what might have happened to this viewpoint if, for instance, Dr. Einstein had denounced it as effusively as he has done. In the light of Menzel's great reputation (one which I take to be fully merited), his inability to damage the opposition may appear surprising. He has failed for several reasons: partly because he oversells his case, partly because his Harvard Press book was a careless job, and partly, I think, because of his independent mind. Working on his own responsibility, he has not given support to the military debunkers in this country; indeed, he has often opposed their theories, waging his peculiar crusade single-handed. This, for a man on the negative side, will not do, though his greatest opponent, Major Donald E. Keyhoe, has been remarkably successful in his one-man crusade for the positive view.

Dr. Menzel's independence has seldom been remarked upon, and is sometimes ignored completely. The suggestion is even advanced that he might be a tool of the military censors—a preposterous theory, as anyone will see upon reading the transcript of the Armstrong Circle Theatre broadcast for January 22, 1958. Menzel contested several Air Force positions on this programme, which Keyhoe describes in detail in his last book, *Flying Saucers: Top Secret.* During the interview Menzel argued strongly that the Air Force investigation should pay more attention to weather phenomena and ice crystals. He rejected the official explanation for the death of Captain Thomas Mantell. The Air Force has claimed that Mantell chased a skyhook balloon to his death; Menzel thinks a sundog the more likely explanation—a sundog which the flier termed "metallic and tremendous in size."

On the Circle Theatre programme he quarrelled with the official saucer terminology. "They are often not even objects," he said. "This is why I prefer the name 'flying saucers' rather than UFO, which implies that they are material or tangible." He dismissed his opponents as "over-eager amateurs," and even suggested that the Air Force dissolve Project Blue Book, the investigating project which has operated since 1948. "In my opinion, it's not the reports of flying

saucers that should be analysed—it's the non-qualified interpreters themselves who argue that these saucers come from outer space." The remark left no doubt as to where Dr. Menzel stood, though I would not call it an exercise in subtlety.

Despite this heavy-handed quip, Dr. Menzel has not been idle in his UFO analysis. For some years, in fact, he has given more time to this than to any other subject outside his professional field. Early in 1953, the Harvard Press issued his famous treatise *Flying Saucers—Myth, Fact, History*. Long out of print, this book has been discredited so many times that I will not trouble myself to answer it at this late date. It argued that all UFO's were illusions and natural phenomena, employing a restrained, persuasive tone notably different from the sledgehammer comments he offered years later on the Circle Theatre. But the astronomical consultant for Blue Book, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, flatly rejected Menzel's theory.

"He does not present a systematic study . . . raises more questions than answers . . . not a serious treatise, but entertainingly written,"[1] Hynek said tersely.

Menzel's book was still passing through reviews when it was knocked down by Major Donald E. Keyhoe, currently director of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena. Keyhoe selected three cases that Menzel had explained away and queried Project Blue Book on each of them.

Question: "Does the Air Technical Intelligence Centre accept Menzel's 'sundog' explanation of the Mantel case?" *Answer*: "No."

Question: "Does the ATIC accept his explanation of the Eastern Air Lines sighting, in 1948, near Montgomery, Alabama?" *Answer*: "No."

Question: "In the case reported by Lieutenant George Gorman, does the ATIC accept Menzel's light-reflection solution?" *Answer*: "No."

Question: "Did Dr. Menzel obtain all available ATIC records in these three cases?" *Answer*: "He did not obtain this information. In answer to a query, he was offered all Project data on these and other cases, through usual channels. We have heard nothing further from Dr. Menzel in regard to this."

Keyhoe reported these facts in his *Flying Saucers from Outer Space,* published in October, 1953, and now still in print and still selling. Later, in *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy,* he reprinted a statement from Captain Edward J. Ruppelt, former direct of Blue Book, in which Ruppelt said: "Regarding a theory by Dr. Menzel that all UFOs were sundogs, halos, light refraction, etc., I was told by advisors to our organisation that this theory was not valid except for a few cases that we had already written off as such."[2]

Further disapproval came from leading scientists. Dr. Carl Gustav Jung, writing in his *Flying Saucers, a Modern Myth,* asserted that "Professor Menzel has not succeeded, despite all his efforts, in offering a satisfying scientific explanation of even one authentic UFO report."[3] But the sharpest cut of all was delivered by Clyde Tombaugh, discoverer of the planet Pluto, and one of Menzel's outstanding colleagues, who had sighted a group of rectangular UFOs from his back yard one night in 1949. Menzel explained this sighting as a reflection of lights from atmospheric haze or smoke. Tombaugh, writing to N.I.C.A.P. Secretary Richard Hall on September 10, 1957, rejoined:

"The illuminated rectangles I saw did maintain an exact fixed position with respect to each other, which would tend to support the impression of solidity. I doubt that the phenomenon was any terrestrial reflection . . . I do a great deal of observing . . . and nothing of the kind has ever happened before or since."[4]

The publication of these statements probably increased Menzel's determination to kill the UFO and recover his lost prestige. Despite all his efforts, the saucers are still flying, now and then breaking into print, and still keeping the Air Force busy. Late in 1957, when he wrote off a new flurry of reports, the Columbus *Evening Dispatch* complained of his "closed-minded dogmatism" and rebuked him as the "chief hatchetman and knocker-down of UFO reports."[5] Captain Ruppelt also protested, reiterating that Menzel's theories had been wholly turned down by the Air Force investigation.

In light of all this, it seems incredible that Menzel's 1953 book was hailed by many reviewers as a final refutation. Patrick Moore, one of the most prolific science writers of the generation, seized on the book with eager enthusiasm. Speaking in total ignorance, he declared that "a recent book by Dr. D. H. Menzel has pricked the bubble once and for all. Flying saucers are neither spaceships nor terrestrial aircraft; they are natural phenomena."[6]

Thus spake Zarathustra. Unfortunately for Moore, Menzel & Co., this bubble will not stay pricked. Indeed, Menzel's book included several remarks that should have caused Moore to wonder just a bit. As mentioned, the Air Force told Keyhoe that Menzel had not examined their evidence, though it had been offered to him. Yet, in the first chapter of his book, he complained

about the unco-operative attitude of the military: "Scientists who might easily have provided the key that would unlock the secrets of the saucers did not receive detailed information—information necessary for a serious study of the whole problem."[7]

Seven years later he cleared up the apparent contradiction. On May 16, 1960, appearing with Major Keyhoe on the Dave Garroway show, he unguardedly stated that the Air Force would not have allowed him to publish the information, had he obtained it. Earlier Dr. Menzel had rejected charges that the U.S.A.F. was suppressing information. Five months after this strange admission, the UFO Project spokesman, Lieutenant-Colonel Lawrence J. Tacker, published an officially authorised book, *Flying Saucers and the U.S. Air Force,* in which Menzel's theories, previously disowned by the UFO Project, were offered as satisfactory explanations. By this time even Menzel must have felt dizzy from the piled-up confusion.

His intense desire to wipe out public credence in the UFO seems especially baffling when we remember that Menzel, by his own confession, has seen things that he couldn't explain. This is proof that, for the truly closed mind, seeing is not believing. In his book he described a sighting of two unidentified objects in New Mexico:

"A few degrees north of the moon, I noticed what seemed to be a bright star, and then a second star appeared not far from the first. . . . To my surprise, I could bring neither of these objects into clear focus. . . . Both hazy discs shone with a slightly bluish light. . . . We climbed out of the car just in time to see the saucers literally fade away as mysteriously as they had appeared. . . . I have long wondered what it was that I actually saw. . . . But at no time did I have even the slightest suspicision that the objects were of interplanetary origin."[8]

Menzel has lately completed a second book on UFOs, written in collaboration with Mrs. Lyle Boyd. The new book will probably be issued in the spring of 1963, after which he intends to give no more time to the subject. It seems regrettable that so great an astronomer cannot leave the door open wide enough to back out gracefully when the full truth emerges. If our first landings on the moon run up against alien bases, Dr. Menzel may find his position slightly embarrassing.

[1] Keyhoe, *Flying Saucers Top Secret,* p. 126.
[2] Keyhoe, *Flying Saucer Conspiracy,* p. 308.
[3] Jung, *Flying Saucers, a Modern Myth,* p. 147.
[4] Hall and Maney, *Challenge of UFOs,* p. 146.
[5] Keyhoe, *Flying Saucers Top Secret,* p. 126.
[6] Moore, *Guide To The Planets,* p. 206.
[7] Menzel, *Flying Saucers: Myth, Fact, History,* p. 2.
[8] Ibid., p. 3-4.

(Page references are to the American editions of the books quoted.)

A NEWER WORLD

Some work of noble note, may yet be done,
Not unbecoming men that strove with Gods.
The lights begin to twinkle from the rocks,
The long day wanes: the slow moon climbs: the deep
Moans round with many voices. Come, my friends,
'Tis not too late to seek a newer world.
Push off, and sitting well in order smite
The sounding furrows: for my purpose holds
To sail beyond the sunset and the baths
Of all the western stars, until I die.
It may be that the gulfs will wash us down:
It may be we shall touch the happy isles.

Tennyson: *Ulysses.*

World round-up

of news and comment about recent sightings

ENGLAND

Hertfordshire witnesses

The following account is taken from the *Berkhamsted Gazette* for October 12, 1962: "More reports are coming in from people who have seen the mysterious and rather eerie object that has been pervading the sky during early evening and night.

"Last week it was reported exclusively in the *Gazette* that Mr. John Neighbour, of Beeches View, Wigginton, had seen what could be called a flying saucer. He decribed it as an orange ball of light, travelling slowly and very low across the sky.

"Now, Mr. and Mrs. William Wilson, of 11 Anglefield Road, Berkhamsted, have also described 'a streak of about a yard in length and six inches wide, of a very deep golden, glowing, light'. They first saw the streak as they were driving home at about 6.40 p.m. last Thursday (October 4, 1962). Twice as they drove along their road they saw the light, but after parking the car in the garage they found the streak had disappeared.

"Said Mrs. Wilson: 'It had the most distinctive glow and I am convinced it was stationary. One end of the streak was brighter than the other, and it was not very high. We garaged the car, and in that short time—thirty seconds—it had gone.'

"At about the same time, the same night, Mr. Smythe, of South Park Gardens, Berkhamsted, was driving along the A.6, near the M.10, when he saw what he described as a bright red object in the London direction. It was moving fast. All the descriptions are similar but authorities have still not been able to identify the object."

Durham nurses see saucer

The *Sunderland Echo* on October 2, 1962, published the following account: "Three nurses are convinced they saw a flying saucer when they looked out of a window at Ryhope General Hospital. 'We thought it was a parachute at first, but there was no man hanging from the straps,' 20-year-old Miss Judith Loftus, of Station Estate North, Murton, told the *Echo* today. The object remained poised over the grounds of the hospital for some seconds, shimmering in the sunshine. Then it raced behind a cloud.

"This is the third report within a week of unidentified objects in the sky above the Sunderland district. A Sunderland housewife, Mrs. Rita Hodgson, saw a 'saucer' while she was doing her washing. 'It was hovering over the sea,' she told the *Echo*.

"Another woman watched from her bedroom for half an hour while a 'weird illuminated object danced in the sky.'"

Gateshead sighting

We are indebted to Mr. Harry Lord for the following account taken from the Newcastle *Evening Chronicle* of October 1, 1962: "Four lorry drivers claimed to have seen five circular silver objects flying over Team Valley Trading Estate, Gateshead, today. They flew over the estate for a few seconds and then disappeared. The lorry drivers were working on the Team Valley estate when they saw the objects. One of them, Mr. George Bellerby, of Meldon Terrace, Heaton, Newcastle, said: 'They were definitely not aircraft. I think they must have been flying saucers. There were about five of them and they looked quite big. They flew in an easterly direction for a few seconds and then disappeared.

"'I am positive they were not aircraft, because of their shape—they were round and a silvery colour.'

"A spokesman at R.A.F. Station Acklington said: 'We had nothing up this morning.'

"Aircraft from some other part of the country could have been in the area."

'Pearl' in the sky

The Sheffield evening paper, the *Star*, on September 22, 1962, reported yet another sighting: "A mysterious 'glowing white pearl-in-the-sky' has been seen by at least twelve people over Worksop and Manton Colliery. The sightings have been described by eye-witnesses as 'a white object like a football in the sky, and travelling faster than an aeroplane.'

"Flour mill worker Sidney Bird, of Shrewsbury Road, Worksop, was walking near Manton Colliery with four friends.

"'At first we thought it was a shooting star. It came from the direction of the pit, then suddenly

turned towards Worksop College,' he said today.

"One woman—alighting from a bus near Woodland Avenue, Worksop—also spotted the object."

Alex Birch tells his story

In the September - October issue, the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW reproduced the snapshot of flying saucers which appeared over Mossborough, near Sheffield, early in 1962. At that time, the young boy who took the photograph, Alex Birch, was uncertain of the exact date, but, according to the following account taken from the *Yorkshire Post* of September 24, 1962, he now seems able to fix it as March 4: "Alex Birch, 14, of Sheffield, held an audience of more than 200 in rapt attention on September 22. He told of how he came to take the flying saucer photograph which the Air Ministry is now studying. He was addressing delegates from societies all over the country at the inauguration of the British Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) Association, in Kensington, London. Alex visited London with his father as the guest of the *Yorkshire Post*.

"He seemed dwarfed by the speaker's stand as he spoke faultlessly for four minutes. He has already broadcast on television and radio about the photograph. He told them that on March 4 he and a friend saw a number of 'strange dull black objects' hovering in the sky about a quarter of a mile away. 'We stood looking at them, puzzling out what they could be,' he said.

"'I think it was for about four seconds, when suddenly there appeared dazzling balls or blobs of light from the region of the objects, which seemed to dim. Then other blobs appeared, and the same thing repeated itself. I thought of my camera. It seemed as if seeing the lights urged me on to try to snap them, which I promptly did, and as I did so the lights seemed to dim and die away.

"Suddenly the objects seemed to move, as if gathering speed, then shot off at a terrific rate in a north-easterly direction over Sheffield. There was no sound at any time.'

"Mr. Leonard Cramp, a Saunders-Roe hovercraft expert and author of *Space, Gravity and the Flying Saucer*, said afterwards: 'There is no doubt that the photographs are completely authentic. It is inconceivable that the youngster or parent could have perpetrated a hoax.'

"Delegates were then shown an enlargement of the leading craft projected on a screen, showing clearly the balls of light. Mr. Cramp said that these were known to have been seen only once before, and might be a clue to the saucer mystery."

According to the *Sheffield Telegraph* of September 24, 1962, subsequently to this meeting, Alex Birch has received numerous letters and even calls from cranks. According to Mr. Birch, some of the stories told have been unbelievable. Mr. Birch added that he had put the affair in the hands of his legal advisers. He added: "My wife and I are worried about the outcome of it all. Alex is a sensitive lad, and he is puzzled and so are we."

As the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW has commented before, it is not so much what people say but the way they say it that constitutes the lunatic fringe. We can imagine some of the stories told to the poor boy and we extend our sympathies to him.

Flying sphere over Surrey

A sighting which was as well attested as it was inexplicable comes from Surrey. The account is taken from the *Surrey Advertiser* of Guildford in its issue of October 6, 1962: "An unidentified flying object was seen on Thursday evening (October 4, 1962) by Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Wood, of Copsley, Shere Road, West Horsley. It was first seen by Mrs. Wood when she looked out of a bedroom window of her home at about 6.50 p.m. It was getting dusk at the time, with the sun setting quite brightly in the west.

"According to Mrs. Wood, the object—'an elliptical thing'—was due west of her home, about ten degrees above the horizon and at an estimated distance of twenty miles. 'It was bright as the moon,' she said yesterday.

"Mrs. Wood called her husband, who is an amateur astronomer. With his telescope he was able to pick up the object for a few seconds before it dropped behind a cloud. He described it as being similar to a ball flattened in the middle with two pieces protruding—one on each side.

"Neither Mr. or Mrs. Wood can find a possible explanation for the object they saw. 'It was definitely not an aeroplane,' says Mrs. Wood.

"Driving to work early one morning recently, a member of the staff at King George V Hospital, Hydestile, Godalming, saw a brightly illuminated object travel at a steady, fast speed across the horizon, resembling neither an aircraft nor a shooting star."

Suffolk

A woman saw a strange object in the sky as she watched the sunrise at Lowestoft, Suffolk, yesterday (December 4, 1962). She studied it through binoculars for an hour.

Mrs. A. Blanchflower, 64, said at her home in Marine Parade: "Except for a dark band at the front, it shed light as if from some inner source. The whole thing pulsated about every three minutes. Rods of light appeared at the back and a bright beam shone from the front."

(From the London *Daily Mail*, December 5, 1962.)

Nobody's satellite

The London *Daily Mail* on November 16, 1962, released the following information: "British space-watchers have tagged two mystery satellites fired into orbit during the past two months.

"Neither America nor Russia will own them. For the first time since the first Russian sputnik went into orbit five years ago, the international agreement to identify all objects in outer space has been broken.

"Mystery object No. 1 is believed by British observers to be a U.S. Air Force satellite.

"But never before—until the mystery launch of September 12—have the Americans carried out a firing in complete secrecy and refused even to confirm that a new satellite has been put up.

"According to the British *Flight* magazine yesterday it was launched on September 12 into an orbit 113 miles up, and stayed for 12 days.

"Mystery object No. 2 went up, I understand, between October 20 and October 26. Nothing more is known about it, and no one can say whether it is Russian or American.

"During the past year U.S. officials have refused to reveal the purpose of more than 20 satellites they have fired."

EIRE

Bus driver 'stunned'

The Dublin *Evening Press* on September 29, 1962, carried the following report: "A C.I.E. bus driver believes he saw a flying saucer over the Phoenix Park about 6.30 this morning. The man, Mr. Patrick Stafford, of 110 Naas Road, was coming out of the Conyngham Road bus depot when the object flashed across the sky.

"'At first I thought it was a plane going to crash. But it was a round object with holes in it like the portholes in a ship.

"'It was clear in the sky for about ten seconds. A white flame shot out of the back of it and spread for about a hundred yards. Then it disappeared suddenly, as if it melted. It was about 500 feet up in the air and was travelling at the speed of a Viscount—about 300 m.p.h.'

"Patrick was on the ground staff in the Air Corps for a number of years and said he was able to judge height and speed fairly accurately. He said he was 'stunned' when he saw it. 'A cleaner who works in the depot also saw it, and was also stunned,' he said.

"A Meteorological Office spokesman told the *Evening Press* that 'this was the first they had heard of it,' and that they could offer no explanation for the incident. At this time of the year the earth is subjected to meteor showers and it is thought that the object Mr. Stafford saw might have been a very bright meteor."

A spinning object

The Dublin *Evening Press* on October 2, 1962, reported that: "Mr. Michael Nolan, a 46-year-old farmer of Drum, near Athlone, has seen what he thinks may have been a flying saucer over his house.

"'It appeared to be in space, and to the naked eye looked about ten inches in diameter. It was shining very brightly and appeared to be almost stationary,' he said.

"Mr. Nolan borrowed a pair of binoculars and saw that the object was round or elliptical, taking at times a triangular shape. 'It gave the impression of spinning around and travelling slowly with a circular movement. At times it appeared orange-coloured,' he said.

"Mr. Nolan's wife and sister-in-law and another man also watched the object through the binoculars for about an hour and a half, as it travelled from north-east to north before it got lost behind clouds."

SCOTLAND

Buchan buzzed

The *Aberdeen Press and Journal* on October 15, 1962, reported as follows: "A mysterious red object was seen in the sky over the Buchan area at the weekend. It was reported to have travelled at high speed over Fraserburgh, heading in the direction of Banff.

"A fifteen-year-old baker's van boy, Gerald Retalic, 47 Gallowhill Road, Fraserburgh, spotted the object, about 6.30 a.m. on Saturday (October 13, 1962) as he prepared to leave for work. He called his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Retalic, who both watched it disappear westwards. But a few minutes later, as Mrs. Retalic watched from her scullery window, she saw the object return.

"'When it came back the second time it seemed to be stationary for a while above us.' she said. Gerald, who reported what he had seen to the police, said: 'It was a red object and it seemed to be glowing like a red hot poker. I thought it was round, with two humps.'

"But Mr. Retalic—who was in the R.A.F. for eleven years—said he thought it was cone-shaped.

"'It was a massive thing, and it travelled very fast towards Banff. It was clearly defined and was certainly like nothing I have seen before,' he said.

"When Mrs. Retalic later spoke to a baker's vanman, Mr. James Summers, New Pitsligo, she discovered that he, too, had seen the object. 'He said he had seen something strange in the sky about that time, but he said it was square,' she said.

"All agreed it could not have been an aircraft—it was much larger, it made no sound, and there were no lights showing.

"'If I believed there was such a thing, I would say it was a flying saucer,' said Mr. Retalic.

"But Fraserburgh police have had no more reports of the object being sighted, and none of the technicians working on the nearby Mormond Hill project—part of the Fylingdales early warning system—reported seeing anything out of the ordinary."

SOUTH AFRICA

Boom and crater

The Johannesburg *Star* in its October 12, 1962, issue reported as follows: "If farmers in the Zeerust area heard a noise like a cannon boom, thunder or a

machine-gun rattle at 7.10 p.m. on Sunday (October 7, 1962), the chances are they heard something straight from outer space. For the noise will almost certainly be that caused by Sunday night's mysterious space object, seen by hundreds in the Transvaal, hitting the earth. The search for the object, described as a 'fluorescent light tube,' has now reached noise level.

"Mr. Bob Citron, of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Laboratory, today asked farmers in the area around Zeerust, Lobatsi, Gabarones, Silent Valley and Northam, to report any strange noise heard on Sunday night, by telephoning 43-7657.

"As the area is 50 square miles a search is still impossible, but once more visual and noise reports are obtained and the area is narrowed down to five square miles, Mr. Citron's party will start a hunt for the crater the space object made. The object, if found soon, may be one of the greatest astrophysical discoveries of the year. Only three or four space objects are found each year and most are collected too late for studies of their radioactive properties.

Object seen by hundreds

The *Johannesburg Star* of October 13, 1962, continued: "Hundreds of people in the Witwatersrand and Pretoria area have telephoned the chief of the Smithsonian tracking station in Johannesburg, Mr. R. Citron, to report having seen a flying object giving off a 'bright blue light' on Sunday evening (October 7).

"Mr. Citron yesterday asked people who had seen the object to get in touch with him so that an attempt could be made to recover it.

"He said today: 'The chances that it reached the earth without burning up completely are about nine in ten. We are most anxious to recover it as it might be of scientific importance. We have received enough reports from the Rand and Pretoria area and I now want to appeal to people in the areas of Rustenburg, Brits, Warmbaths, Swartruggens, Zeerust, Lichtenburg, Ventersdorp and Mafeking to telephone me at 43-7657 if they saw the object. In this way we can accurately plot its trajectory and perhaps pinpoint the place where it hit the earth. It would be a great help if not only the people living in the towns, but also farmers send us their reports.'

"Mr. Citron said he would be particularly interested to know whether anyone heard this 'object from space,' which would indicate that it was very close to earth.

"There was a good chance that people living north-west of Rustenburg heard a 'thunderish' noise or an explosion when it hit the earth."

Over the Free State

The *Johannesburg Star* also reported on October 20, 1962, with a dateline from Theunissen that: "A shiny object was again seen here yesterday, it was seen in the afternoon, then disappeared.

"Police said the object was high in the sky and it could not have been a weather balloon because it disappeared suddenly to the west with a white flash."

U.S.A.

Angel hair

Reports of the fall of angel hair have become increasingly rare of recent years. The Utah *Desert News and Telegram* of October 19, 1962, however carried a report illustrated with a photograph of Mr. Peter Beloz holding some of the substance in his hand: "Great globs of a white, sticky material fell from the sky on Thursday afternoon and settled in balls and sheets and threads over much of the Utah Power & Light Co. Gadsby Plant, 1407 W. North Temple. Some pieces were sixty to seventy feet long and gave the appearance of a tattered parachute. But the substance was sticky and disintegrated into n o t h i n g when stretched far enough. Some fifty employees first saw the white material high in the sky about 2 p.m.

"Pete Beloz, a transmission engineer, said, 'At first it looked like two or three parachutes coming down. Then as it came closer, we saw it was big globs of this stuff. A lot of it got tangled up in transmission lines, but it didn't cause any trouble. It was all over the place. I've never seen anything like it before.'

"He said some of it was in big balls, other parts were in sheets and threads. 'It looked like a tarantula spider web,' he said.

"The material came from the north and fell from the sky for fifteen or twenty minutes, apparently mostly in the area of the Gadsby plant. No one knew what the mysterious substance was, but guesses ranged from something caused by the Hercules explosion on Wednesday afternoon to an invasion from outer space. Dr. Grant Wynn of the State Health Department, informed of the phenomenon on Friday, said he had no guess as to what the substance might be."

(Credit to Mr. James D. Wardle.)

NEW ZEALAND

Woodlands saucer

The Otago *Daily Times* on August 20, 1962, reported that six people living at Woodlands saw what they believe to have been a flying saucer in the sky west of Invercargill on Friday night, August 17, 1962. The report continued: "The object was first seen at about 9.50 and it remained in view for about fifteeen minutes. It was the third sighting in the Woodlands district in ten days. A Woodlands farmer, Mr. H. K. Dukes, said that the object looked about the size of a basketball. It was first seen farther north than the city lights and it moved south, disappearing behind cloud.

"The flying saucer was orange-pink in colour, but changed to green. It travelled at a moderate speed. Six people in the district saw it.

"Mr. Dukes was emphatic that it was not a conventional aircraft.

The sighting was the latest in a long series over the past few years."

CANADA

Vancouver search for space object

We are grateful to Miss O. Beaton for the following account reprinted from the Vancouver *Province* for November 8, 1962:

"Royal Canadian Mounted Police are searching for the landing place of an unidentified flying object that crashed flaming to earth in the Mount Razorback area near Alexis Creek on Saturday, Alexis Creek is in the Chilcotin west of Williams Lake.

"Geophysicist Prof. William Slawson said in Vancouver on Wednesday, after talks with Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Royal Canadian Air Force officers, that the object was probably a meteor.

"Wing Commander Douglas Biden of Mt. Lolo radar base near Kamloops thought the object was a meteor, but 'there's a one per cent. chance it could be space garbage—station debris from a satellite.'

"He said he recommended a government investigation after reporting it to Air Defence Command Headquarters at St. Hubert, Quebec.

"The object was first sighted by Chilcotin area ranchers when it fell to earth with a boom heard for 100 miles. It came to Royal Canadian Air Force notice four hours later when it was reported by telephone to Mount Lolo radar base 300 miles away.

"Wing Commander Biden said the radar equipment at the base could not pick up signals from objects travelling as fast as a meteor might.

"On Wednesday (November 7) a Royal Canadian Mounted Police light plane found a charred mountain area while scouting Mount Razorback of the Niut range, about 100 miles north-east of Mount Waddington. But Royal Canadian Mounted Police could not positively identify the spot.

"Royal Canadian Mounted Police said on Wednesday at least six persons saw the object and others heard the boom of its landing from Hanceville, 20 miles east of Alexis Lake, to the Tupper Lake area, 100 miles west.

"Mrs. K. A. Telford, a rancher, reported seeing a cone-shaped object flying over her land 10 miles west of Alexis. She said it was wide at the front, tapered and burning at the tail end. She thought it was about the size of a small plane, about a mile up, and said it was moving overhead and westward away from her.

"Prof. Slawson said he has asked government officials in Ottawa for permission to investigate in a helicopter. New snow fell on Wednesday in the Mount Razorback area, to about the 8,000 foot level."

AUSTRALIA

Sydney's alert

The London *Sunday Express* on November 25, 1962, reported that a huge glowing ball of fire flew across Sydney on November 24 turning streets and country areas into daylight. Hundreds of people from fifty suburbs telephoned newspapers and military headquarters to report the mysterious object.

One explanation offered was that it might have been a fragment of Biele's comet which disappeared from the heavens ninety years ago.

BRITISH UFO ASSOCIATION INAUGURATED

On September 22, 1962, this association was formed to co-ordinate the activities of a number of British societies devoted to a study of the flying saucer enigma. These societies include the following:

BRITISH FLYING SAUCER BUREAU
(Bristol. Founded 1953).

ANGLO-POLISH U.F.O. RESEARCH CLUB
(Penge, S.E. London. Founded 1955).

TYNESIDE U.F.O. SOCIETY
(Newcastle upon Tyne. Founded 1959)

SCOTTISH U.F.O. RESEARCH SOCIETY
(Edinburgh. Founded 1959).

LONDON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT RESEARCH ORGANISATION
(London. Founded 1959).

STRATFORD-ON-AVON U.F.O. GROUP
(Stratford-on-Avon. Founded 1960).

DIRECT INVESTIGATION GROUP ON AERIAL PHENOMENA
(Stockport. Founded 1960).

CHELTENHAM FLYING SAUCER GROUP
(Cheltenham. Founded 1961).

Apart from the object of co-ordinating the activities of the individual societies it is ultimately hoped to bring about an international federation of flying saucer societies. All enquiries should be addressed to the Secretary, Mr. G. N. P. Stephenson, 12 Dorset Road, Cheam, Surrey.

MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

Sheffield sightings

Sir,—Mr. Revill now claims to have seen two objects on the night of August 19 (see FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, November-December, 1962, issue) and the one he managed to film was the second one. His latest statement is to the effect that he saw at about 11 p.m. a large, bright object shaped like two saucers, making a dome at top and bottom. It was, or appeared to be, transparent, but there was a clear line running horizontally which could have been some sort of platform. It was an orange colour and moved very slowly from west to east. By the time Mr. Revill had recovered his composure and fetched his cine-camera the object had disappeared. But about three minutes later there appeared another object, moving in the same direction. This one was shaped like a child's spinning top and was altogether different. Mr. Revill then contradicted his original statement by saying that the second object remained stationary.

I saw Mr. Revill's film show on a screen three feet square. From the right-hand side of the screen there appeared a yellowish object. It danced madly around the centre of the screen for about three or four seconds before tearing off upwards out of sight. It is difficult to describe its shape because it changed so often. But my general impression is of a slightly cylindrical object with something that could be called a dome on top.

With regard to Mr. William Hudson's sighting (see FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, November-December, 1962, issue), he is now prepared to accept that the object he saw was Jupiter. — Allan Kassell, Castle Market Building, Sheffield, 1.

(We wonder who first suggested to Mr. Hudson that the object might have been Jupiter. His original account said: "It was not a plane and not a star . . . at first it looked like five white balls spread across a triangle and joined together . . . as it moved it seemed to change shape and became one white object with a red band across the middle. It had a sort of fish tail ray behind." The "explanation" sounds very much like the many other rationalisations that have been offered by sceptics to ride away from the truth.—Editor.)

Reason for silence

Sir,—I think the answer to the problem of why the U.S.A.F. is debunking saucers and using methods unpleasantly reminiscent of Hitler and Stalin to gain their ends is to be found in the last four lines of the article in the November - December FLYING SAUCER REVIEW.

Conceit is the stock in trade of all governments and all civil servants. The government of any country must know all the answers and civil servants must always appear to be in the right, otherwise those they govern will immediately question their authority and they will lose their jobs. The standard instruction to all civil servants is "if in doubt, say no," as most of us found when dealing with wartime temporaries, many of whom were little more than children. It is clear that it is in the interests of all governments and all bureaucracies to suppress the truth about flying saucers. While the problem remains unsolved no civil servant can ever admit that they do not know the answer. When proof is forthcoming that they are interplanatary and therefore must be further developed than we are, all governments will fight the harder to suppress this fact.

The world is in a sorry state owing to the mismanagement of the governments of the present day. Were contact made with people of a race more advanced than ourselves, there would be a demand by all nations for these people to govern us, as with their greater wisdom they would do it much more successfully than existing governments.

It is hardly surprising, therefore, that the present governments of the world will fight their hardest to suppress the truth—it is the primeval instincts of self-preservation and fear of losing their jobs that lie behind the silence campaign. — Gavin Gibbons, Milhams, Stanley Lane, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

(We think that the reasons for the Government's silence on flying saucers are complex, not simple. Certainly the conceit of government is one reason, but there are others. We hope to be able to include an article on this matter in our next issue.—Editor.)

An inhabited Mars?

Sir,—Dr. James Van Allen believes nuclear explosions can eliminate Earth's radiation belts as a menace to space flight. Had

our experimental space explosion been higher, the electrons released would have undoubtedly neutralised protons in the lower belt, which are most intense at about 6,300 miles, instead of merely adding to the lower boundary of the belt. Significantly, with good evidence of radiation belts around both Venus and Jupiter, none has yet been detected around Mars. In favour of an inhabited Mars, it can be argued such belts were long ago destroyed and kept from reforming perhaps by equipment carried by Mars's satellites which, rather suspiciously, orbit in the equatorial plane at the distances one would expect such radiation to be most intense. The usual "explanation," of course, is that Mars' magnetic field is very weak or non-existent. Since this subject is a specialty of Sir Bernard Lovell, perhaps he would be willing to discuss the matter in your pages or elsewhere.—E. R. Lee, 3129 Oakland Avenue, Minneapolis 7, Minnesota, U.S.A.

(Although flying saucers are rapidly gaining in acceptance and respectability, we doubt whether Sir Bernard Lovell is willing even now to drop his prejudices and write for the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW. It is very difficult for those who have been our opponents to admit openly that we may have been right all along.—Editor.)

Saucers or ghosts?

Sir,—I was interested to read some of the citations in Joseph Ledger's article on page 19 of your September-October, 1962, issue. The author's reference to "the galloping h o r s e m a n" prompts me to draw attention to the poem "A halál Lovai" ("The Horses of Death") by the Hungarian poet Endre Ady. This was written in 1908 and describes ghostly riders who "pick up" travellers at night and carry them off. The third stanza begins: "Honnan jonnek, ki tudja azt?" ("Whence they come, who knows?") The quotation seems particularly apt in the light of present thinking!—E. J. Groom, Authors' Club, 2 Whitehall Court, London, S.W.1.

'Ghost rockets'

Sir,—Waveney Girvan's article on hallucinations, etc., in the November-December, 1962, issue was of great interest to me. It is highly significant that in the early days of the subject, before the phrase "flying saucers" had gained its wide currency, witnesses were never suspected of hysteria, drunkenness and so on. In 1946-48 many papers reported "ghost rockets" over Sweden and other Scandinavian countries and stressed the fact that the witnesses were competent. The London *Daily Telegraph* of September, 1946, actually reproduced a photograph of one of these objects and accepted it as perfectly genuine. It was only when the possibility arose that these objects might be extra-terrestrial and not Russian that the witnesses were abused and the mass-hysteria, hallucination explanation was offered in an attempt to avoid an unacceptable solution to the mystery. It is now obvious that it is the explanations and not the saucers which are subjective.—L. B. Cooper, 18 Pulborough Road, London, S.W.18.

Adamski's Hieroglyphics

Sir,—Mrs. Bauer's letter in the last issue was most welcome. As I suspected when I wrote my article, the "grafiti" in Prof. Homet's book were not found in the same place but in *separate* places. Re the suggestion that the block was, though dark, yet transparent, I do not think that this is so. It appears to be comparatively opaque, as far as one can judge by the photograph.

I would also like to mention that in the November-December, 1962, issue of the REVIEW Hubert Malthaner states categorically that the "block" on the picture in *Flying Saucers Have Landed* is the place where the negative of the roll of film was fixed with gum on the black paper of the package. If he is correct this would certainly help to solve part of the mystery attaching to this photograph. Would he therefore care to answer the following questions:

(1) He states that Adamski thought his (Mr. Malthaner's) interpretation so obvious and self-explanatory that no comment was made on it in the book. Is this speculation on Mr. Malthaner's part or has he had a communication from Mr. Adamski to this effect?

(2) The "block" is almost a perfect rectangle, with corners nearly perfect right angles. How often has Mr. Malthaner seen a spot of gum of similar shape? Personally, I cannot remember ever seeing a spot of gum that had edges as rectilineal as those in the picture.

(3) The "block" is of a greyish tone. Would Mr. Malthaner care to explain the nature of the rectangle of considerably lighter tone (almost white, in fact) within the confines of the "block"? Is this also produced by gum?

(4) Would he also explain the very dark patches on the left-hand side of the "block," resembling some chiffon - like material? Gum?

I await Mr. Malthaner's answers with great interest.

A final question does occur to me which photographer readers of the REVIEW will be better equipped to answer:

(5) Adamski states (page 193) that the camera he was using was a Hagee-Dresden Grafles type and that a negative from this was the origin of the picture in question. However, the text talks of a "film" and the picture caption refers to a "plate." Could this camera take a film and in particular a "roll of film" as Mr. Malthaner implies?

May I finally re-state my position—I regard this as a trick photograph. I suggested two ways in which it might have been produced. Contrary to Mr. Malthaner's statement I made no accusations of forgery against any individual, (1) because I have no idea who took the photograph, (2) because forgery usually presupposes the existence of a genuine article. — Charles A. Stickland, 22 Roseberry Street, London, S.E.16.

THE MOON AND THE PLANETS *by C. M. Pither*

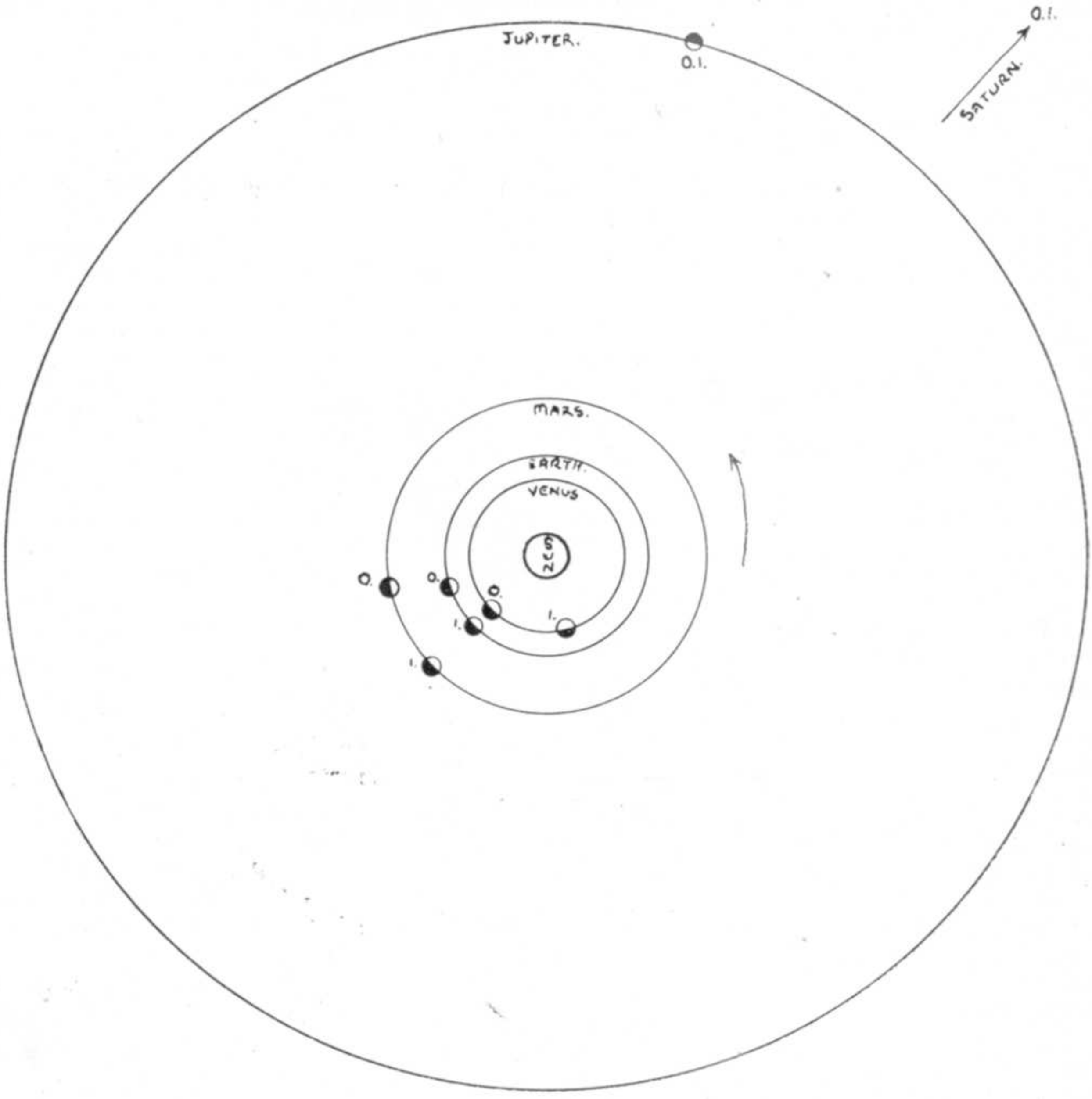


FIG I.

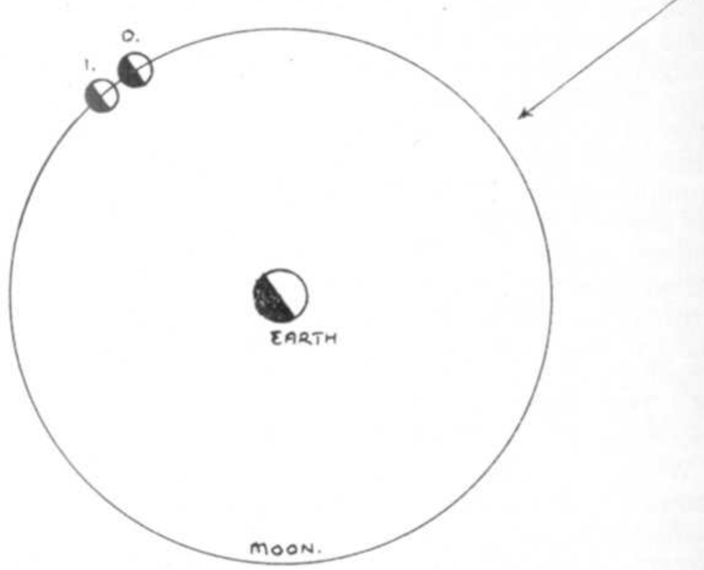


FIG 2.

Fig I. It will be seen that the Planets Jupiter and Saturn have moved very little from their positions shown on the previous issue. The reason being that both these bodies move round the Sun so slowly. " O " the planet's position in January and " I " the planet in February.

Fig 2. An important point not previously mentioned is that Moon from position " O " has travelled right the way around the earth before reaching position " I ".

N.B. Mars reaches Opposition on February 4; this means that the Sun, Earth and Mars are in a straight line.

THE ALEC BIRCH PHOTOGRAPH

IN our July-August issue we reproduced the photograph of flying saucers taken above his home by Alec Birch, of Mosborough, Sheffield, early in 1962. In the subsequent issue we reported that the Alec Birches, father and son, had visited the Air Ministry in London where the photograph and the camera were inspected by experts who were unable to explain what the objects were. It caused very little surprise, however, when the experts, having recovered their wind, so to speak, were able to find an "explanation" that would satisfy those members of the public anxious to be reassured that everything is under control.

The *Yorkshire Post* on November 1 carried the following report: "A letter from the Air Ministry describes 'unidentified flying objects' seen over Sheffield last March as probably reflected ice particles This is 'dodging the issue,' says the father of the boy who photographed the objects.

"Mr. Alec Birch, of Moor Crescent, Mosborough, Sheffield, terms the Ministry's story 'rubbish.' It was his son Alec, 15, who photographed the five objects last March.

"They were so vivid that Mr. Birch and Alec were invited to visit the Air Ministry with the picture, negative and camera. Later Alec addressed a convention of the Unidentified Flying Objects Society in London.

"He has had letters from many parts of the world complimenting him on the excellence of his pictures. The Ministry's letter says that March 4 was overcast, with snow and some sun and ice particles in the atmosphere.

"'In the Sheffield area smoke and haze were present and, generally, cloud formations at various altitudes were many and varied,' it states. 'Pockets of warm air rising from the city would have caused temperature inversions. Under these conditions, reflected and refracted light can cause peculiar effects in the sky. It is possible that this attracted the attention of Alec and his friends and that the photograph is of effects of this kind.

"'It is also a possibility that the photograph of the 'flying objects' is the result of an imperfect exposure. To sum up, the photograph can be explained in mundane terms and does not mean that so-called 'unidentified objects' must have been over Sheffield at the time it was taken.'

"Mr. Birch told *The Yorkshire Post* last night: 'This letter contradicts what the Air Ministry told us in London. They said then they could find no fault with either the camera or the photograph.'

"A few days ago Alec and his parents all saw what they believe to be a flying saucer in the same area. 'It was a black object with an orange glow on top of it, and we saw it for some seconds before it flew away,' Mr. Birch said."

However annoying such "explanations" may be to serious students of the mystery of flying saucers, it is felt that, in some ways, the Air Ministry is unwittingly helping our cause. Short of an official admission that saucers exist, statements like the above are bound to convince thousands of people of the more reflective type that those in authority are desperately anxious to persuade the masses to forget about UFOs. Those of our readers old enough will remember that when Hitler launched the first of his V2 rockets on London, the Government inspired the rumour that the noises were caused by exploding gas mains. We mention this to remind our readers that what Government officials are really "expert" in is the gentle art of misleading the public when it wants to. As we now know that the Government is fully informed about flying saucers (see the leading article in the November-December, 1962, issue), we regard this latest rationalisation by the Air Ministry as just another confirmation of the fact.

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"ORBIT" is the journal of the Tyneside UFO Society, now in its fifth year of publication. It always includes articles of lasting interest by well-known UFO authors, news items of importance and reports of current sightings. In addition it is the only British magazine to carry the latest teachings and information from George Adamski. The minimum subscription is 8s. for four quarterly issues. Apply to J. Leslie Otley, 41 Deanham Gardens, Fenham, Newcastle upon Tyne, 5.

An enquiry into the origin, nature and composition of gravity

by Cyril W. Davson

Our contributor, who has not written for the *Review* since 1956 is the author of *The Physics of the Primary State of Matter* and *The Cosmos is Qualitative.* The nature and origin of gravity is clearly becoming a matter of the utmost importance, particularly in the field of saucer studies.

The Origin and Composition. This must be the ether, i.e. the texture of space. If space has only "extent" and no "texture" there can be no celestial bodies. Cosmic bodies must therefore originate from the ether.

The composition of the ether from which the gravitational force originates is hydrogen and oxygen, but I cannot emphasise too strongly that this is not H and O as gases but as "energy."

Everything is first in the energy form before it enters the known forms, i.e. the gaseous, liquid and solid forms. The study of the energy form is termed "The Physics of the Primary State of Matter."

The Nature of the Gravitational Force. Gravity cannot be understood until the "energy form" or primary condition of matter, as energy, has been studied and grasped.

Briefly stated, when an inequality occurs in the homogeneous ether, the hydrogen component (energy form) sublimates out and conglobates on the point of inequality and a sun or other variant is formed. Hydrogen in this primary dynamic form is termed "glowing magnetism." In the static form, as in the ether before polarisation, it is "latent."

Magnetism in present physics (secondary physics) is defined as being a force of attraction, but it must be contained in some suitable material, e.g. steel, when it exerts an attraction on a similar material, whereas primary magnetism exerts attraction upon each particle of itself and so forms itself into a sphere of the greatest density that can exist in nature. This is a primary vacuum, and the primary force in all nature. Every cosmic body has as its central core a sphere of this glowing magnetism, but this is not merely a physical force—it is a conscious-physical force, and the gravitational attraction between two cosmic bodies is due to the interaction of their central cores of primary or glowing magnetism, and this is the gravitational force, or force of gravity.

Primary magnetism is biomagnetism; that is why we have a living earth or an earth that produces and support life, e.g. human, animal and life in lower forms. Where a cosmic body, say one of our planets, cannot produce life or only life of so low an order as to be hardly classifiable as such, it means that the peripheral sublimate on that planet arising from the radiation of the central core through the planet's crust, which we term *air*, is lacking or very thin, and the consequent essential physical conditions, e.g. temperature, barometric pressure, relative humidity, are lacking or maladjusted for this purpose. But we must not rule out the possibility that there can be not human but *thinking beings* of a high order of intelligence and we will hope also of spiritual attainment, which do not require air and have no blood, but merely energy fluidum; such beings could visit our earth and travel at great speeds. Their "flying saucers" would be of compressed energy and their motive power a biomagnetic sphere of glowing magnetism. This would provide a P.D. with the latent ether, and thus produce motion of a high order.

Telecommunication between distant worlds would be possible through their biomagnetic cores, just because they are "biomagnetic," and thus "conscious-physical," and can therefore be acted upon by biomagnetic conscious-physical beings—human or at least thinking beings—but the time for this is not yet. We shall have to grow not merely intellectually as we are doing at present, but spiritually.

Is the gravitational force the primary force? No, it is only a phase or one condition of it.

The primary force is already with us. Everything, including life in all its forms from the amoeba to the human or thinking being, is a product of it. Basically expressed, it is the universal or divine force, and what man desires is that he should be able to produce—or perhaps to be more accurate it should be said reproduce—it by artificial means so that man could control and utilise it for the production of power in all the necessary forms, e.g. for defence, the generation of the electric current (a convenient method for the distribution of power for most purposes), and finally, since the primary force is biomagnetic and conscious-physical, for all forms of healing and medical requirements.

It is unlikely, however, that man, in his present state of mere intellectual development, or at least so long as he aspires to a preponderance of intellectual rather than of spiritual progress, will ever be entrusted with the production and utilisation of this primary force.

We will, however, examine the principle here, in brief, following on the lines indicated by the primary physics for the production and manipulation of this force.

To obtain this power artificially we should have to produce a miniature sun in, say, a sphere of cast steel. We should then have to tap into the fundamental potential difference—earth-atmosphere, atmosphere here meaning the free ether outside the earth's crust, not the air.

This P.D. arises as follows: The radiation (biomagnetic) from the earth's central core saturates the earth's crust and thus promotes and supports what we term *life*. While in the crust it is a bound stressfield, whereas when it extends beyond the crust it is a free stressfield. Between these two, at the earth's surface, is the *fundamental P.D.* of our terrestrial system.

The purpose of the sphere mentioned above would be to link this P.D. earth-atmosphere and thus draw up the biomagnetic stressfield of the earth into the sphere and flash it into glowing magnetism, in fact to emulate, or rather to attempt to emulate, the cosmic conditions by which a sun or other variant is produced by polarisation of the ether, as explained above. The description of this proposed apparatus, i.e. of the sphere and its connections, together with a diagrammatic drawing and calculations of the power that should be generated for a given size of sphere, will be found in *The Physics of the Primary State of Matter*.

As a theory it is quite reasonable, but to bring about the necessary conditions artificially as they are produced in the cosmos itself is quite another matter. Moreover, if " glowing magnetism " were established or generated in the sphere, it is almost certain that atomic action would take place on the periphery of the sphere of glowing magnetism within the cast steel sphere, and thus produce an explosion.

REPORT FROM NORWAY

by Arvid Dahle

Our correspondent is Deputy Chief Constable of Trondheim. Readers may be interested to compare the triangular object referred to in this report with that observed through a telescope for over an hour by Mr. Bill Hudson of Sheffield (see " Sheffield's sensational week " in the November-December, 1962, issue).

I AM sending you two clippings, one from *Adresseavisen*, which is issued in Trondheim and is one of the biggest newspapers in Norway, and the other from *Aftenposten*, Oslo, Norway's largest newspaper. I am not able at present to give you a precise translation of the articles, but I will try to give a rough, but correct, transcription of the content.

The clippings deal with a rather interesting sighting which has so far not been explained. The headline in *Adresseavisen* reads " Mysterious luminous body sighted over the district of Bodø and Rana." Bodø is a town more than 500 miles north of Trondheim. It has a big airfield which is also used by the Norwegian Air Force. You may, by the way, remember that it was alleged by the Russians that the famous U-2 plane with Mr. Powers on board was planned to land at Bodø.

The sighting took place on August 17. On that day, the article says, planes from Bodø Air Station went up to have a look at a luminous object which was sighted the same day above Meløy. A pilot found the object and had a very clear view of it from underneath. It was, however, impossible for him to estimate the size and character of the object. He followed it, but it climbed, and

at 33,000 ft. he had to abandon the pursuit. He did not get a photo of the object.

At Bodø Air Station they at first thought it might be a balloon, but the meteorologist denied this. There were no weather balloons in the vicinity, and, besides, the balloons in use would not have behaved in that way.

A lot of people in the district saw the object. For some time it made a vertical climb and then disappeared in a northerly direction. It looked like a luminous star, but seen through binoculars it had a triangular form. The object was sighted in two hours before it disappeared. By some of the people who saw it the object was described as looking like a pyramid. An amateur astronomer who looked at the object through a telescope, was quite sure that it could not be a balloon. He also says that it had a pyramidal form and that on the top it had a luminous cupola and at the bottom a luminous edge. Also the middle part of the object glowed, but more weakly.

The clipping from *Aftenposten,* which also carried the news about the sighting, but didn't give such a big headline as *Adresseavisen* (which has many readers in the Bodø area), says that the luminous object was sighted also on Friday, August 19. One could quite clearly see its triangular form. It was observed in the Mo i Rana district (south of Bodø) from about 8.30 p.m. until 10.30 p.m.

Perhaps the most interesting point in the whole story is the fact that the Norsk Rikskringkasting (the Norwegian Broadcasting, which is government controlled), in connection with its news service on Friday, August 17, brought an interview with Lieutenant-Colonel Hauge (I am not quite sure about the name, but I heard the interview myself) from Bodø Air Station about the mysterious object. It was evident that the Lieutenant-Colonel did not want to express his opinion too openly, but he had to admit that he did not know what the pilot, who was not present during the interview, had seen. The only explanation he could afford was a hinting of some optical phenomenon—the old story. It sounded as though the Lieutenant-Colonel was both impressed and bewildered. But it would have been more interesting to have heard the pilot himself. Why he wasn't available, I cannot tell.

It is not unusual to find incidents which may have connection with UFOs mentioned in Norwegian newspapers, but always without comment. I should say they are not very interested in the UFO question, I have myself some years ago written articles in *Adresseavisen* about it, and I think people then were interested.

Since this report was written, an official communique was released to the effect that the sightings were caused by balloons sent up in connection with the civil Norwegian rocket project. These balloons, it was said, had triangles fastened on them.

This does not seem to be a satisfactory explanation. Those engaged on the rocket project would surely have informed the Air Force about the release of such balloons. And how can a trained pilot fail to identify a balloon which, by the way, was seen to climb faster than the pilot's plane? It would seem to be another case of accepting part of the evidence and rejecting anything that fails to fit the explanation.

ARE WE PLANNING TO INVADE MARS?

ACCORDING to a recently published book by the American writer Guy Murchie, *Music of the Spheres* (Secker and Warburg, London, 42s.) a full-scale invasion of Mars has been dreamt up by Wernher von Braun, the former German, and now American, rocket pioneer. He adds the comforting reflection that the operation would cost no more than a fair-sized war, though he omits to mention whether his estimate would include the cost of any resistance that might be put up by the inhabitants.

It would appear that the preliminary plans are being put into operation, and Guy Murchie claims that all of the manned space flights launched from Cape Canaveral have been regarded as early preparations for the invasion. Von Braun is quoted as saying: "The scientific know-how for accomplishing this is already at hand. It is now largely a matter of getting better organised, co-operating more closely with the Russians and building large stocks of high-quality equipment."

The author of *Music of the Spheres* concludes with the remarkable statement that biologists compare this planned human leap with the way the fish successfully colonised the land against similar difficulties. A reviewer of this book states that "the fish, of course, became birds and beasts." Of course?

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Books of interest to students of flying saucers

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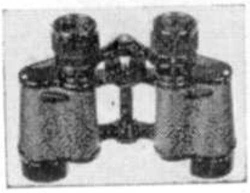

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CHALLENGE TO THE TECHNICAL PRESS

(*Continued from page* 10)

Remember the basic requirement of the G field theory allows for a highly concentrated and localised gravitational field, which can be developed from within the operating craft. This field would be unidirectional to move the craft in all possible planes. We have considered several aspects of flight phases, such as when the ship is in motion and/or hovering. But there is another local condition which might accompany a hovering saucer which we have not yet considered. It is the levitating force or vertical thrust vector.

As with the forward thrust condition, every molecule of the craft's structure would experience an upward acceleration simultaneously. In the hovering condition above the atmosphere of a planet there would be an upward acceleration of 1g to balance out the earth's downward 1g acceleration or "pull." Hovering a few hundred feet above ground level in atmosphere would require a small adjustment, i.e. the vertical lift component must be less than 1g, otherwise the craft would behave as a conventional lighter-than-air craft or balloon, it would rise through buoyancy! But henceforth, to simplify the issue, we will consider that the upward vector equals 1g.

Again, as in forward flight, the supporting field would extend radially outwards from the ship, producing a lift gradient all round the vessel. Therefore, the air molecules immediately in contact with the periphery would also be subject to an upward acceleration of 1g becoming less the further out from the craft they were situated (Fig. 10).

This is important. For it implies that there would exist round the machine a belt in which a mass would be rendered weightless. If the occupants, for some reason or another jettisoned, say, a gaseous substance —or a liquid for that matter, then on leaving the craft it would immediately coalesce into a spherical shape, exactly as it would do in fact if it were in outer space, or as in an astronaut's capsule when in orbit.

Moving slowly outwards away from the ship, it would continually be subjected to ever-decreasing regions of the G field and, of course, would begin to disintegrate, falling as it did so. Remember it was a glowing *ball* of light which rendered Scoutmaster Desverges unconscious in Florida in 1952. Going to investigate, the scoutmaster saw "an object large enough for six or eight men to stand in. It was about ten feet high in the centre and about thirty feet in diameter and shaped like a half rubber ball, tapering down to a three feet thickness on the side." He believed he got near it for about three minutes. It was only ten feet from the ground and it made a hissing sound like a tyre going down. Desverges said that from the object a ball-shaped flare was shot at him which seemed to float slowly towards his face. "When I awoke," he added, "I had no sense of feeling." A deputy sheriff reported that the hairs on Desverges arms had been singed and tiny holes burned in his cap.

The observable phenomena continue to fit the theory, which will be accepted by the author until, under the scrutiny of newer evidence, they break down.

Here is the fundamental reason for this article. On the grounds that Alex Birch and his friends were not suffering hallucinations as proved by the photographic evidence, are we to consider that these boys have taken part in a childish hoax?

These, of course, are the arguments of the scientific sceptics in that order. Clearly there can be no others, and the first is invalidated. Therefore I propose to answer the only remaining argument to the point and with the utmost conviction at my command.

Can any serious and responsible person really consider that these boys, having perpetrated such a hoax and produced a fake—which the Air Ministry is satisfied the photograph is not—then go on to dream up phenomena which exactly fit predicted behaviour in the G field theory? We can just imagine them inventing "glowing spheres." But to continue describing the break up of such formations to suit the required conditions—is this not asking a bit *too* much?

Or if they care to listen at all, will the "scientists" once more prefer to take their stand on a hoax favoured by chance? The same chance in a million, in fact, which appeared to have favoured Stephen Darbishire eight years ago.

Although it must be stressed that this necessarily brief presentation is far from complete, it may at least serve to illustrate the consistency which, in fact, does accompany the many reports. The G field theory is not just an idea built to fit the various sightings. On the contrary I consider that an understanding, and utilisation, of gravitation is the only logical ultimate method of aerial and space travel. It is on this basic premise that the theory has been formed. The fact that it is supported by, and in turn, supports the many sightings claimed, the overwhelming majority of which are made by untrained people, serves to suggest that (a) either a fantastic and highly improbable coincidence is favouring a world full of cranks, or (b) there is something in it. The subject is at least worthy of serious consideration.

Here then is our challenge to those members of the scientific Press who continue to ignore what may well be the most intriguing scientific wonder our modern science may yet one day inherit. In the light of reason and meaning in the word science, how much longer shall we choose to be afraid of what our colleagues may think?

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